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*The R. Hon. ^{ble} Robert D'Arroy,
Earl of Holderness*

WRIGHT, T.

L O U T H I A N A :
O R, A N
I N T R O D U C T I O N
T O T H E
A N T I Q U I T I E S o f I R E L A N D .

In Upwards of NINETY VIEWS and PLANS:
Representing, with proper EXPLANATIONS, the Principal Ruins,
Curiosities, and Antient Dwellings, in the County of LOUTH.

Divided into THREE BOOKS.

Taken upon the Spot by
T H O M A S W R I G H T,
Author of the Physical and Mathematical Elements of Astronomy, &c.

Engrav'd by PAUL FOURDRINIER.

*High Towers, fair Temples, goodly Theatres,
Strong Walls, rich Porches, princely Palaces,
Large Streets, brave Houses, sacred Sepulchres,
Sure Gates, sweet Gardens, stately Galleries,
Wrought with fair Pillars, and fine Imageries :
All those (O pity!) now are turn'd to Dust,
And over-grown with black Oblivion's Rust.*

SPENSER'S Ruins of Time.

L O N D O N :
Printed by W. FADEN, for the Author,
And Sold by R. DODSLEY, in *Pall-mall*, and M. SENEX, opposite to St. *Dunstan's* Church,
Fleet-Street.

M D C C X L V I I I .

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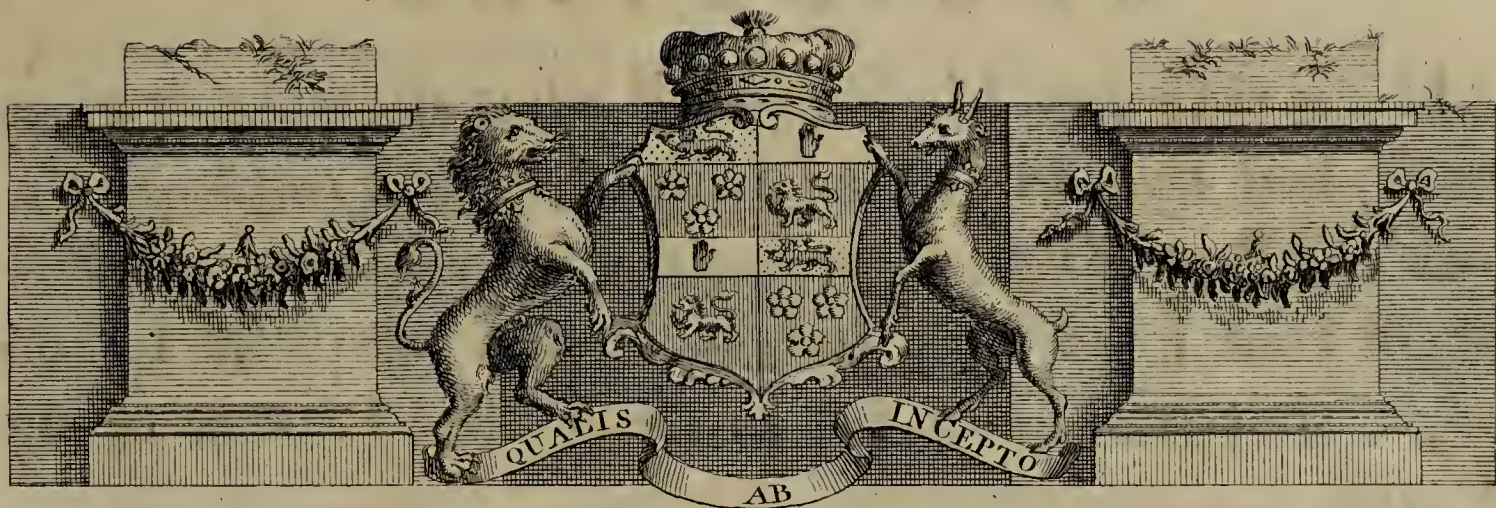
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To the Right Honourable

J A M M E S,

Lord Viscount **L I M E R I C K,**

Privy-Counsellor of the Kingdom of **I R E L A N D,**

A N D

Lord Lieutenant of the County of **L O U T H.**

M Y L O R D,



S it is chiefly to the Friendship and Assistance with which your Lordship was pleas'd to honour me during my Stay at *Dundalk*, that I am indebted for the Opportunity of taking the original Sketches for the following Plates; your Lordship has an undoubted Right to this Address.

H A D

DEDICATION.

HAD they any Merit beyond what the Subject gives them; had they so just a Claim to your Lordship's Favour and Protection; secure in the Approbation of a Person of your Lordship's Judgment and universal Knowledge, they could not fail to rise in the Esteem of the World.

I SHALL not offend your Lordship with saying much upon the main Subject of Dedications: Your indefatigable Labours for the Good of your Country in general, and of *Dundalk* in particular (where the good effects of your constant Care are daily seen, in the improving State of that good old Town) are too well known to need repeating; and will be a lasting Witness of your Worth, as long as the Name of HAMILTON shall be remember'd; a Monument as lasting as I could wish this Testimony of my Gratitude might be, who am,

My LORD,

Your Lordship's much oblig'd,

London, March 1747.

And very humble Servant,

THOMAS WRIGHT.



View of Dundalk and the Bay

T H E
P R E F A C E.



NOTHING concerning the various Antiquities of *Ireland*, having yet appear'd in Publick, the Author hopes this Attempt will not prove altogether unacceptable to his Subscribers, or unworthy the Notice of such Gentlemen whose Curiosity leads them to Enquiries of this Nature. And,

As the Ambition of pleasing his Friends, more than that of becoming an Antiquary, was his real Motive for undertaking the Work, he hopes, though he should be found unequal to the Task, his Intention will plead his Excuse for having attempted it.

MEN of Taste and Capacity often want Opportunities of viewing Objects well deserving their Attention: It is no wonder therefore that these have so long escaped both the Pencil and Pen of abler Judges, who no doubt with much less Difficulty and more Accurateness would
have

P R E F A C E.

have produced them to the World in a more elegant Dress; and I am perswaded from what I have seen of *Ireland* in general, many and singular Curiosities may be found in that Kingdom worthy the Consideration of such of the Learned as take a Pleasure in enquiring into Matters of Antiquity.

THE County of *Louth* must be allow'd a very small Part of the whole Kingdom; but then it may be justly called the Heart of the old *English Pale* *; and as such, is fill'd with Variety of Objects, all bearing evident Marks both of Grandeur and great Antiquity.

† *Dundalk*, in the Reign of *Edward II.* we find was a royal City, and the last we read of where a *Monarch* of all *Ireland* was actually crown'd and resided: it has formerly been very strong, and compos'd in a manner all of Towers and small Castles, such as that of *Rath, Ballrichan, Rood's Town, &c.* Lord *Limerick*, to whom it now belongs,

* The old *English Pale* extended originally from the Town of *Wicklow* in the South to the Point of *Dunluce* in the North of *Ireland*, having what is called the North Frontier now, then in the Center.

† *Spenser* relates, that *Robert le Bruce*, King of *Scotland*, in the Reign of our *Edward II.* taking Advantage of the civil Wars of the Barons in *England*, sent over his Brother *Edward* with an Army of *Scots* and *Redbanks* into *Ireland*, who gathering unto him all the Out-laws of the North out of the Woods and Mountains, marched into the *English Pale*, and sacked, burnt and destroyed all that fell in his Way, spoiling and rasing all the Cities and corporate Towns he met with, and “ coming lastly to *Dundalk*, he there made himself King, and reign'd the Space of one whole Year, until that *Edward*, King of *England*, having some Quiet in his Affairs at home, sent over the Lord *John Birmingham* to be General of his Wars against him; who, encountering with him near *Dundalk*, overthrew his Army and slew him.” But the fugitive *Scots*, who were hotly pursued in their Turn, for very Rancour and Despise utterly consumed and wasted, whatever they had before left unspoiled, so as, if we may credit *Spenser*, of all the Towns, Castles, Forts, Bridges and Habitations, they left not a Stick standing. “ Thus, this Author says, in his *View of the State of Ireland*, was all that goodly Country utterly wasted, and sure it is a most beautiful and sweet Country as any under Heaven, being stored with many goodly Rivers, replenished with all Sorts of Fish most abundantly; sprinkled with many very sweet Islands and goodly Lakes, like little inland Seas, that will carry even Ships upon their Waters.”

lately

P R E F A C E.

lately ordered eighteen or nineteen ruinous Remains of such, to be entirely pull'd down, and caus'd other Buildings to be rais'd upon the old Foundations:

THE Town is very advantageously situated for a most extensive inland Trade, and the Port is very safe for Shipping. The Bay has good Moorings at all Times of the Moon in four to upwards of eight Fathom Water, with very good Land-marks either for bringing up or making the Harbour; and in crossing the *Bar* at high Water, on ordinary neep Tides there is from 15 to 18 Feet Water. Besides many other good Qualities the Bay abounds with all Sorts of Fish customary in the Channel. No true account of this Port being to be met with, I have been tempted to say more in this Place than perhaps was required. But to return.

THE Method I have taken in dividing the Work needs very little Explanation; the Reader will readily observe, that the whole Plan is divided so as to answer two different Periods of Time.

THE *Bodes*, *Forts*, and *Mounts* are supposed to be the Labours of the first, and the *Castles*, *Keeps*, and *Towers* the Labour of the last.

THE third Book must be look'd upon as a kind of Supplement to both the other two.

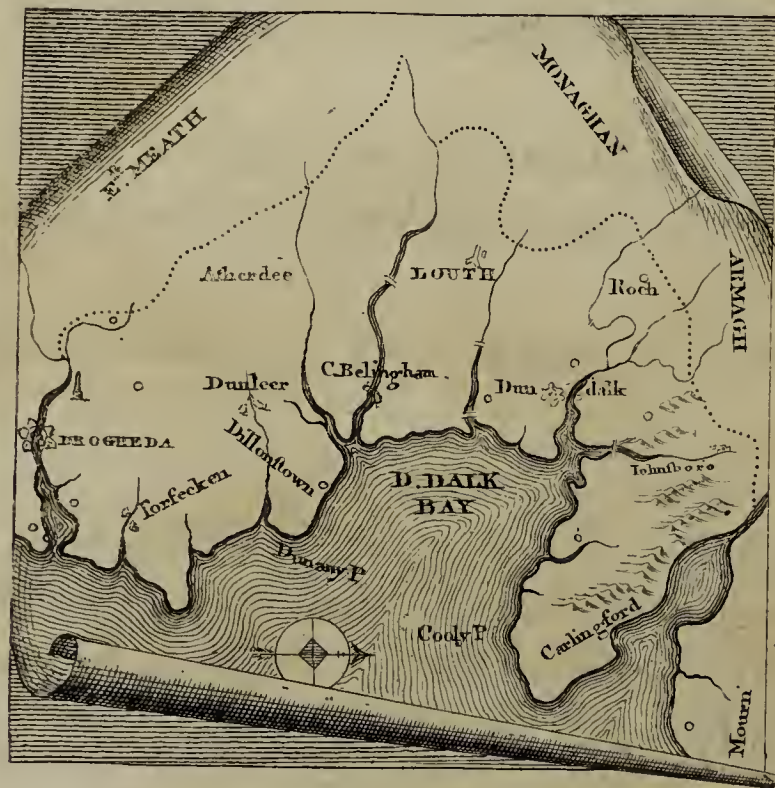
THE Ichnography of the first Part is all drawn from one and the same Scale, *viz.* 60 Feet to an Inch, (excepting only the Camp of the *Llins*, which requir'd a much larger, that the comparative Proportions by Inspection, only may be more easily seen.

THE

P R E F A C E.

THE Plans of the Buildings in the second and third Part, for the same Reason are all drawn from one Scale of 12 Feet to an Inch, excepting only that of the Castle of *Carlingford*, which is from one of 24.

PLATE I, IV, VI, XII and XIII in the first Book, the I, III, IV, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XVII, and XVIII in the second Book, and the XV. and XIX in the third, as I could learn little concerning them, being mostly remarkable from their Appearance only, I judg'd a farther Account than what refers to them in the Contents unnecessary, being unwilling to tire the Reader with Accounts that might possibly appear too trifling.





The MONUMENT of the BATTLE of the BOYNE.

- A. The Ford where K. William past the River. ~*
B. K. James's Station during the Action ~
C. The Place where D. Schomberg was Kill'd. ~

L O U T H I A N A:

B O O K I.

V I E W S and P L A N S

O F T H E

Most Remarkable B O D E S, F O R T S, and M O U N T S

I N T H E

C O U N T Y of L O U T H.

W I T H

An Account of their O R I G I N as attributed to the Natives or
Foreign Colonies.

I n T W E N T Y P L A T E S.

As taken upon the Spot by

T. W R I G H T.

L O N D O N:

Printed for the Author, and sold by R. D O D S L E Y, in *Pall-mall*, and M. S E N E X,
opposite to St. *Dunstan's Church*, *Fleet-street*.

M D C C X L V I I I.

T H E
C O N T E N T S.

P L A T E I.

VIEW of a Fort or Bode upon a rising Ground near Ballinahatney Plain, supposed to be one of the common kind of Habitations belonging to the first Planters.

P L A T E II.

View of Mount Albani, distant about two Miles from Dundalk, said to be the Station of a Colony of North Britons.

P L A T E III.

View of Roskugh, a very old and curious Danish Fort near Carick Braud.

P L A T E IV.

Ichnography of the same.

P L A T E V.

FIG. 1. View of the Fort by the Side of Dundugan River, probably as old as the first Planters.

FIG. 2. *Ichnography of the same.*

P L A T E VI.

FIG. 1. View of Mount Ash, upon the Top of an Hill near Louth, said to be a Station of the Danes.

FIG. 2. *Ichnography of the same.*

P L A T E VII.

FIG. 1. A Danish Fort, or Rath, not far from Dunlear, towards the Sea.

FIG. 2. *A Profile or Section of the same.*

P L A T E VIII.

View of a very considerable Danish Mount and Fort at Castle Town near Dundalk.

P L A T E IX.

Ichnography of the same.

P L A T E X.

View of Green Mount near Gernand's Town.

P L A T E XI.

Ichnography of the same.

P L A T E XII.

FIG. 1. The Fairy Mount at Louth.

FIG. 2. *Ichnography of the same with Part of the old Town trench.*

P L A T E

The CONTENTS.

PLATE XIII.

FIG. 1. *The Mount of Castle Ring near Louth.*

FIG. 2. *Ichnography of the same.*

PLATE XIV.

FIG. 1. *View of the Faughard, upon the North Frontier of the English Pale, where Lord Mountjoy encamp'd from the 15th of October to the 9th of November 1600, against Tyrone, who was then in Possession of the Pass of the Moyra, distant about one Mile*

FIG. 2. *Ichnography of the same.*

PLATE XV.

View of a considerable Mount and Fort at Killany, three Miles West of Louth Town.

PLATE XVI.

Ichnography of the same.

PLATE XVII.

View of a very large Mount and Fort called Castle-Guard, at Atherdee.

PLATE XVIII.

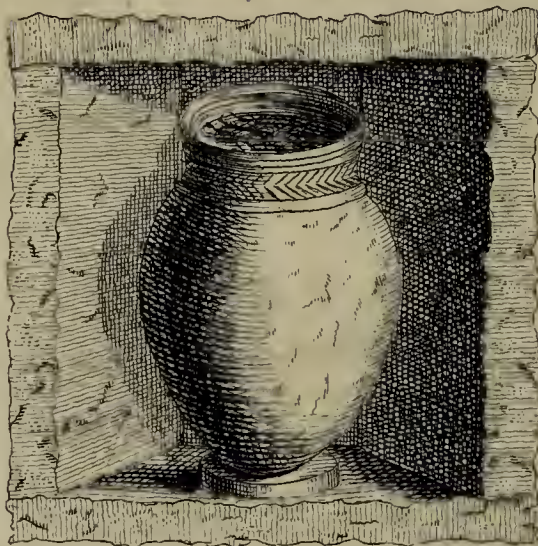
Ichnography of the same.

PLATE XIX.

View of Mount Bagnal, a very romantick Situation in Piemont.

PLATE XX.

Ichnography of a Danish Fort by the Pass of the Llyns, upon the Banks of the Sea near Gernand's Town, now call'd Castle-Bellingham.



OBSER-



The Faughard .

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

Principal BODES, FORTS, and MOUNTS represented
in the first Book.

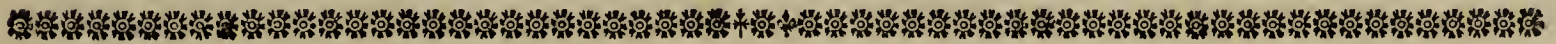


PLATE II.

Mount Albani.



MOUNT Albani, or *Moat Albani*, is a small Fort, with a double Ditch round it, by the Side of a River called *Carickartickin*, about half a Mile distant from the Castle of *Ballrickan*: There appears to have been an outward Camp adjoining to it upon the Banks of the said River, capable of containing about 500 Men. 'Tis said to have been the Station of a Colony of *Scotchmen*, or *Albanians*, from whence it has its Name; and under the *Tumulus*, or little Mount within the Area, 'tis supposed the Chief, or some eminent Warrior, lies buried.

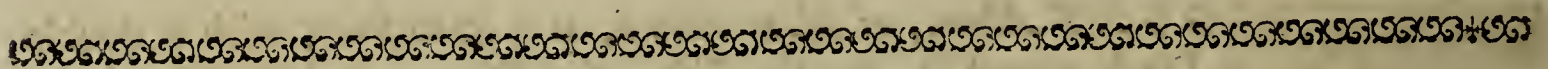
PLATE

P L A T E III. and IV.

Rofskugh, or the Fort of Carick-Braud.

THIS evidently appears to have been a very considerable *Danish* Station, having formerly been surrounded with a double Ditch and a triple Vallum, one of which seems to have been of Stone, the rest of Earth. The Trenches are very deep and broad, and within the internal Area, still remains the ruinous Foundations, and part of the Walls of two Stone-buildings, the Area mark'd A, *Plate IV.* probably may have been the principal Dwelling; the other B, which is more elevated upon an eleptical Mount, is supposed to have been a Watch-tower, or Keep; which being render'd more difficult of Access, may probably have been design'd upon proper occasions to retire to, for greater Security in time of Danger.

Without this Fort are the visible Marks of other Camps, two in particular adjoining to it of no small Capacity, able to contain at least 1000 men each; and in one of them, rather the least of the two, is still to be seen the Ruins of an old Chaple cover'd with Ivy: But whether this Building or the adjacent Camps, were originally design'd for the Use and Guard of the main Fort, can't easily be determined, though 'tis evident from the Situation of the Place, which is close to the Foot of the Mountains, and near a small pleasant River, full in view of the sea, it must have been a Place of some Consequence, and of particular Note in the flourishing Days of that Province.



P L A T E V.

Dundugan Fort.

THIS very uncommon Fort is encompassed with three wet Fosses, all concentric to one another, and joins as represented in the Plan to *Dundugan* River, and is called *Dundugan Fort.*

GREAT Part of the Central Mount has been cut away by Mr. *Fortescue*, the present Possessor, to form a new Channel for the said River, which is always very deep, and subject during the Floods, which are very frequent, to overflow all the adjacent Pasture and Meadow - Grounds, so as to form a considerable Lake for several Months, especially in the Winter-season.

WHAT

WHAT the original Design of this odd kind of Habitation was, I can form no sort of guess, unless it was to guard some Family of the first Planters, from the wild Beasts of the Country, which, in early Times were very numerous and ravenous: Or else some Clan of the Natives from their ill-disposed Neighbours, and from foreign Invaders.



PLATE VIII. *and* IX.

Castle-Town Mount.

THIS is a very remarkable Mount, and an undoubted Station of the *Danes*, situated upon an Eminence near *Castle-Town*, and is a bold Point of View to all the Plains about *Dundalk*, commands a full View of the Bay, and great Part of the Country round about it.

THE Mount A, or chief Guard, appears to be all artificial, and is surrounded with a magnificent Ditch. The Height of the Terras Work in the Middle from the Plane of the Trench is in some Places 50 Feet, and the Circumference of the Top is upwards of 460. Upon the East and West Side of it, are two other Forts, or Redoubts (B and C) adjoining to the outward Vallum of the Ditch, as represented in the Plan (*Plate IX.*) which, together with the main Mount A, cover all the Summit of the Hill upon which they stand, and for several Miles to the North and South, make a very formidable and grand Appearance.

THE Mount A itself is supposed to be hallow within, (as other Mounts of the like Construction have been found to be) but I have not heard of any Attempts that have yet been made to open it.

PROBABLY this Work may have undergone several Changes since its first Formation, and the little Camp B and the Lunette or Redoubt C may have at different Times been added as Occasion required to the Capital Fort, and perhaps at last it became a royal, or chief *Danish* Station, for such it appears to have been well worthy of, besides a magnificent Sepulchre of some of their most eminent Captains.

Spencer says (in *his View of the State of Ireland*) “ It was a great Use amongst
“ the *Irish* to make great Assemblies together upon a Rath or Hill, there to parly
“ (as 'tis said) about Matters and Wrongs between Township and Township, or
“ one private Person and another. Farther, that these round Hills and square Bawns
“ which we see so strongly trench'd and thrown up, were (he says) at first ordain'd
“ for the same purpose, that People might assemble themselves therein, and therefore
antiently

“ antiently they were called *Folk-motes*, that is, a Place of People, to meet or talk of
 “ any Thing that concerned any Difference between Parties and Townships.” We
 learn likewise from the same Author, (treating of the said Hills) “ That they were
 “ appointed for two special Uses, and built by two several Nations; the one is that
 “ which you call *Folk-motes*, which were built by the *Saxons*, as the Word be-
 “ wrayeth, for it signifieth, in *Saxon*, a meeting of Folk; and these are, for the
 “ most part, in form four square well entrench’d: The others which were round,
 “ were cast up by the *Danes*, as the Names of them doth betoken, for they are
 “ called *Danes Rathes*, that is, Hills of the *Danes*; the which were by them devised,
 “ not for Treaties and Parlies, but appointed as Forts for them to gather unto in
 “ troublesome Time, when any Trouble arose.”

How true this Relation may be, with regard to the first of these Nations in
Ireland, I can’t possibly say, since I think it is not by all Writers allowed, that the
Saxons had any footing there. But the Reasons *Spencer* gives for a like Practice in
England, by the latter are very solid and pertinent. “ For the *Danes* (says he) be-
 “ ing but a few in comparison of the *Saxons* (in *England*) used this for their Safety;
 “ they made those small round Hills so strongly fenced in every Quarter of the
 “ Hundred, to the End, that if in the Night, or any other Time, any troublous
 “ Cry or Uproar should happen, they might repair with all Speed unto their own
 “ Fort, which was appointed for their Quarter, and there remain safe, till they
 “ could assemble themselves in greater Strength: For they were made so strong
 “ with one small Entrance, that whosoever came thither first, were he one or two,
 “ or like few, he or they might there rest safe, and defend themselves against many
 “ till more Succour came unto them: and when they were gathered to a sufficient
 “ Number, they marched unto the next Fort, and so forward till they met with
 “ the Peril, or knew the Occasions thereof.

“ BUT besides these two Sorts of Hills there were antiently divers others; for
 “ some were rais’d where there had been a great Battle fought, as a Memory or
 “ Trophy thereof; others, as Monuments of Burials of the Carcasses of all those
 “ that were slain in any Field, upon whom they did throw such round Mounts,
 “ as Memorials of them; and sometimes did cast up great Heaps of Stones (as you
 “ may read the like in many Places of Scripture) and other whiles, they did throw
 “ up many round Heaps of Earth in a Circle, like a Garland, or pitched many long
 “ Stones on end incompass, every of which (they say) betokened some Person of
 “ Note there slain and buried; for this was their antient Custom before Christiani-
 “ ty came in amongst them, that Church-yards were enclosed.”

THUS much *Spencer* in his *Dialogue between Eudoxus and Ireneus*, in the last
 Volume of his Works has wrote concerning those Rathes and Mounts, but of the
 latter I shall have occasion to say much more in its proper Place.

PLATE X. and XI.

Green Mount.

Green Mount near Castle Bellingham (known also by the Name of Gernand's Town) appears to have been formerly a very strong Camp, in the Shape of an Heart: 'tis situated upon the Top of a fine green Hill, and over-looks all that part of the Country. The People that live near it have a Tradition, that here was held the first Parliament in *Ireland*, (and the Spot assign'd for it is mark'd A) but there are other Accounts, and not without as good Foundation, that make the first Meeting of an *Irish* Parliament in the adjacent County of *Meath*.

THERE is a *Tumulus* or Barrow in this Camp mark'd B, which probably is the Sepulchre of some eminent Warrior, such being commonly found in, or near most Forts and Camps of any consequence, and known to be a Practice of the *Danes*.

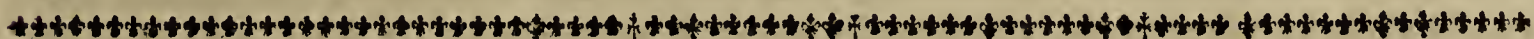


PLATE XIV.

The Faughard.

THIS is an artificial Mount composed of Stones and Terras, with a deep Trench round it, raised to the Height of 60 Feet, in the Form of the Frustrum of a Cone, upon the North Frontier of what is now called the *English* Pale. There has formerly been some sort of an octagonal Building upon the Top of it, as appears from the Foundations remaining, represented in the Plan, *Fig. 2*. But whether it was a Tower or a Parapet, only Breast high, there is not Wall enough now remaining to determine; but in all probability, it may originally have been a Funeral Monument, and in latter Days formed into a Beacon, or Fort, either as an out Guard to defend the said Frontier, or signify the Approach of an Enemy. It stands very high about two Miles North of *Dundalk*, and near it Lord *Mountjoy*, in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, at several Times encamped during the Rebellion of *Tyrone*.

P L A T E XV. *and* XVI.*Mount Killany.*

THIS is a large and beautiful green Mount near the Town of *Killany*, which is now most of it in Ruins, together with a fine old Church, and a Bridge leading to it. It stands very low and by the Side of a River, concealed even from the neighbouring Grounds, almost on every side, excepting only down the Valley, through which the said River winds its Course, for about half a Mile. There is a little Camp or Fort adjoining to it, as shewn in the Plan, *Plate XVI.* bordered by the River on one Side and the Town-wall on the other. Formerly there must have been some kind of Building or other upon the Top of it, as appears from the Stonework yet remaining, but whither from its first Formation, or as necessary Improvements of later Days by way of Tower, Keep, or Battery, is yet a Query and not easily solved.

THE Construction of it is conical, like that of the *Faughard*, but much more considerable in Magnitude, the Height of it is upwards of 70 Feet, and the Circumference at the Top not less than 120; 'tis by many esteem'd as an antient Burial-place, and raised as a Monument to some provincial King, or eminent Prince of the Country.

P L A T E XVII. *and* XVIII.*Castle Guard at Atherdee.*

THIS is a magnificent Mount of an amazing Magnitude, all artificial and encompass'd with a double Ditch and Vallum; 'tis now all planted with Wood, and looks very romantick. The perpendicular Height of the Mount from the Bed of its Foundation is nearly 90 Feet, and the Depth of the main Trench betwixt 30 and 40; the Circumference at the Top is not less than 140, and round the Foundation upwards of 600 Foot.

THERE appears to have been from Foundations yet remaining, two concentric octagonal Buildings upon the Summit of it, the one A seems to have been a sort of Tower or Castle, the other B a kind of Breast-work or Gallery, by way of Parapet or Battlement, probably an outward Keep or Guard.

ON one Side there is also a fally Terras, mark'd C, *Plate XVIII.* which crosses the main Ditch, and communicates with the outward Works. This is manifestly a Work of great Labour, and undoubtedly designed at first for a Memorial of something worthy of being long remembered, and nothing is more natural (since we don't want parallel Instances) than to conclude it a sepulchral Monument, a Burying-place of some of the *Irish Kings*; but for farther Evidence of this Matter read the following short Discourse of Mounts in general.



Of MOUNTS in general.



MOUNTS, like those I have been describing, from the many I have seen, and taken Drawings of, I have observed to be of different Forms, and may be distinguished in various *Classes*, three at least; the first, or most common Sort, are only simple Hills of Earth, or of small Stones covered with a Coat of green Sod, without any other Ornament about them, and are most frequently to be met with near the publick Roads, several of such may be seen betwixt *Drogheda* and *Dundalk*, and are represented by that of *Castle-Ring* and *Mount-Bagual*, *Plate XIII.* and *XIX.* Some of the very largest of this Sort I have seen encompassed with a Circle of Stones pitched on one End, particularly, one at *Grange*, near *Drogheda* in which there is a vaulted Cave in the Form of a Cross, with a Gallery leading to it, eighty Feet long; another of this Kind, but not so considerable, I observed upon the Road between *Antrim* and *Belfast*, not far from *Temple-Patrick*.

THE second Sort of Mounts, are every where incompassed with a deep Trench, and are generally to be found in the Neighbourhood of some old Castle, or Building of Note. Such are those of *Castle-guard*, *Green-Castle*, and *Killany*.

THE third Kind is commonly attended with a square Fort, or Redoubt, adjoining to the main Trench, and sometimes with other Works, rendering them very defensible, as if designed for a formal Garrison, or the Head-Quarters of a Prince. Of this Kind is that of *Castle-Town*, the *Newry*, *Demor-Fort* in *West-Meath*, and the Fort of *Dromour*, in the County of *Down*.

MOUNTS of all these different Forms, and of as various Magnitudes, are very common all along the old *English Pale*, and even as far as the North-Sea, but chiefly near the East-Coast of *Ireland*. I don't remember to have seen any of these Mounts very far Westward, or many farther South, than the two Counties of *East* and *West-Meath*, where they are numerous and large.

ALL we can learn of the original Design of these vast Heaps of Earth is chiefly from old Authors, Tradition being now almost silent concerning them. Most of

them are undoubtedly very old, and may have undergone many Changes since their first Formation, which makes it very difficult to determine what their Original really was.

Homer by two very remarkable Passages in his *Iliad* seems to intimate that this was long ago the Practice both of the *Greeks* and *Phenicians*, and the Manner of their burying their Dead, particularly Heroes and eminent Men, of which the Monument of *Patroclus*, in the twenty-third Book of the *Iliad*, and that of *Hector*, in the last, are notable Instances of this Sort. Describing the Funeral of the first of these Heroes, *Mr. Pope* thus translates that Poet.

*The sacred Relicks to the Tent they bore ;
The Urn a Veil of Linnen cover'd o'er.
That done, they bid the Sepulchre aspire,
And cast the deep Foundations round the Pyre ;
High in the Midst they heap the swelling Bed,
Of rising Earth, Memorial of the Dead.*

And his Description of that of the latter is as follows ;

*The snowy Bones his Friends and Brothers place,
(With Tears collected,) in a Golden Vase ;
The Golden Vase in purple Palls they roll'd,
Of softest Texture, and inwrought with Gold.
Last, o'er the Urn the sacred Earth they spread,
And rais'd the Tomb, Memorial of the Dead.*

How near this comes to a true Picture of the *Danish Mounts* in *Ireland* I leave to the Reader to judge from their several Planes and Figures ; but then it must be considered, that many of them may have undergone some Change since their first Formation ; I mean with regard to the double Trenches round some of them, and those visible Remains of Stone-work upon the Tops of many of them, particularly the octagon Foundation of a Tower, &c. upon the Summit of *Castle-guard*, at *Atherdee*, and the like Remains or Marks of a Stone-Building upon *Killany Mount*, &c. which Works may possibly have been superadded. Not that we want Instances in the oldest Authors to shew, that Works of Stone were also added, upon proper Occasions, where Inscriptions were necessary, as a Finishing to the whole.

THE grandest, if not the first of this Kind, if we may credit *Herodotus*,* is to be seen in *Lydia*, and was erected at a vast Expence, for *Alyattes*, Father of *Cræsus*; the Bases of which were composed of Stones of extraordinary Dimensions, and the Rest of it of a Terras; 'twas six Stades and two Plethrons in Circumference, and thirteen Plethrons in Breadth. Hence we may conclude it was of a circular Form, or at least pentagonal, since we are also told, there were five Monuments upon the uppermost Part of it; placed as Boundaries, with Inscriptions certifying the Measure of the Work, and Labour of the Artificers, who are said to have been assisted by young Maids, that did more Work than the Men..

Herodotus also observes, that it was a prevailing Custom amongst the Antients, after a Battle, to bury their Dead in Heaps under such Mounts of Earth, in Memory of any signal Victory gained over their Enemies. Many such as these were erected after the famous Battle of *Platæa*, where the Army of *Xerxes*, under the Conduct of *Mardonius*, received a total Defeat. So great was the Vanity of the *Greeks* upon this Occasion, that it is said several of these Mounts were erected by *Grecians* who were absent from the Fight, to deceive Posterity. Such may have been the Original of those Tumuli upon *Salisbury* Plain, in *England*, which, without any sufficient Foundation, are attributed to the *British* Druids. Such likewise may have been the Original of those vast Carneds of Stone upon *Kern Bawn*, in the County of *East-Meath*, where formerly a bloody Battle was fought between the native *Irish* and the *Danes*.

Virgil gives us an Example of one of these Sepulchres in the Description of a Funeral Monument raised over a King of the *Aborigines*, *Æneid*. Lib. 11.

*There, like a Mountain, rose a lofty Hill,
In which old Laurent's King, Dorcennus lay,
Stately interr'd, tho' in a Tomb of Clay.*

And in *Lucan's Pharsalia* we find, Lib. 8.

Et regum cineres extructo monte quiescunt;

Plutarch's Life of *Alexander* also affords another Instance of this Sort of Monument, where *Damaratus*, the *Corinthian*, is said to have died, in a Visit to that Conqueror, in *Asia*, and had a most magnificent Monument of this Kind erected for him in the Camp, the whole Army contributing to the Work, which, we are told, was raised to eighty Cubits high, from a very broad Foundation, all of Earth, though, at the same Time, 'tis said, his Bones were carried back to *Greece*.

* See his CLIO.

BUT to come nearer home, and trace this Manner of Burial to *Ireland*, which we have great Reason to believe was first practised in this Kingdom by the *Danes*, we need only consider what the oldest Writers of that Nation have said upon the same Subject, relating to the like Works, undoubtedly raised by the *Danes* in their own Mother-Country. *Joannes Cypreus*, as I find him cited, says, "In the Time
 " before they could build Pyramids, or raise Obelisks to the Memory of their
 " Kings and great Men, they erected over them vast Hillocks of Earth, heaped
 " as high as Mountains, and chiefly in such Places through which Men continually
 " travelled, as high Roads and publick Passages, that by this Means they might
 " consecrate to Posterity the Memory of their most celebrated Men, and, in a
 " manner, make them immortal.

Olaus Wormius, another *Danish* Author, and a faithful Enquirer into the Antiquities of his Country, farther observes, "That the more rude and ordinary
 " Sort of Mounts consisted only of Earth heaped together into a round conical
 " Figure; but such as are encompassed at the Bottom with one Range of Stones
 " are thought to have been dedicated to the Generals of Armies, or the greatest
 " of their Nobility, whereas those that are plain, and not adorned with Stones,
 " are only raised for valiant Soldiers, and such as deserved well of their Country.

AND again, the same Author takes Occasion to note, "That those that fell in
 " Battle they flung together in a Heap, which they called *Valcaster*, and over these
 " they raised the Earth so high as to become an Hill.

A Mount of this Sort, some Years ago, *Dr. Molineux* informs, was opened near *Carrickfergus*, in the North of *Ireland*, in which were found several *Danish* Trumpets of Brass, such as they used in War, of a very odd Make, two of which, he tells us, were in the Possession of Sir *Andrew Fountaine* when he left that Kingdom.

Wormius, the *Dane*, testifies this also as an antient Custom, and practised by his Countrymen. "Our Ancestors (says he) did not only commit to their Graves
 " the Corps and Ashes of the Dead, but with them likewise Spears, Arms, Gold
 " and Silver, and such like Rarities that were dear to them in their Lifetimes."

HERE it may be observed, that the *Danes* also burnt their Dead after the Manner of the *Greeks* and *Romans*, a sufficient Testimony of which follows, from the frequent Discoveries made by the same *Dane* in the Mounts and Vaults of his own Nation, and of the Urns, Bones and Ashes deposited in them, where he says, "They burnt the dead Bodies, and gathered the Ashes into Urns, and placing
 " them in the Middle of a Circle surrounded with large Stones, they covered the Top
 " with a broad one; then over all heaped Stones, with Earth and Sand, till they
 " had raised a little Hill, like a Mount, which they covered with a Coat of green
 " Sods, that it might appear beautiful in the Eyes of the Spectators that passed that
 " Way.

HERE

HERE then is a fair sepulchral Mount, according to *Wormius's* Description, every Way agreeing with many of those we find in *Ireland*, and such also have been opened in different Parts of that Kingdom, and found to contain Urns, burnt Bones and Ashes, quite agreeable to the above Account, particularly one at *Headford*, twelve Miles from *Gallway* in *Connaught*, Anno 1678, and another at *Waringstown* in the County of *Down*, 1684. See more of these in *Dr. Molineux's* Natural History of *Ireland*, from whence I have borrowed the above Passages from the *Danish* Writers; and to use that learned Gentleman's own Words, "Had we no other Authority or Tradition for it, I think we could not well question but that these with us are the remains and Workmanship of the same *Danish* Nation."

IT appears from such of these accumulated Hills, that have been laid open, that some of them were only designed for single Persons; others again for two or three, or perhaps a whole Family. The first of these are so disposed, that the Cavity or Vault in the Center, made for the Reception of the dead Body, has no Passage or Entry leading to it, as if intended to be opened no more, a Mount of this Sort was dug into near *Trinity-College* in *Dublin*, about the Year 1646, and the Vault, with a Man's Bones in it, discovered. The other Kind, erected for two or more, or many, have generally left in them a narrow Gallery, or Passage, leading to the inward Chamber, or Vault, but the Entrance so closely stopped and concealed, as rarely to be discovered. A remarkable one of this Kind, is that of *New Grange*, into which I myself, first creeping upon my Hands and Knees, afterwards walked upright for about eighty Feet to the Center, where I took several Drawings of the different Cells in it, which are supposed to have been dedicated to the three prime Deities of the northern Nations. *Thor*, *Odin*, and *Friga*, to whom, 'tis presumed, from the Stone Basons in the Niches, they used to offer Sacrifices in favour of the Dead. This curious Cave is fully described in the *Natural History of Ireland*, p. 202, to 206.

IN this Cave, when it first was opened, the Bones of two dead Bodies entire, not burnt, were found upon the Floor. And this Manner of Burial is also mentioned by *Wormius*, and as a Practice of later Date than that of Burning. The second Age (he observes) was, "That in which the entire Corpse, not burnt, was placed, with all its Ornaments, in a round hollow, whose Sides were made of large Stones, and covered with the same at Top, over which they heaped so much Earth and Sand, that it equalled the Height of a little Mountain, and which, at last, was adorned, on the Outside, with green Sods, and other Stones set round it."

THUS to the *Ostmanians* or *Danes*, who were constant Inhabitants, and Masters of *Ireland*, from about the Year 770, to the Time of the *English* settling there in the Reign of Henry II, agreeing with a constant Tradition, we may safely attribute the

the raising all these vast pyramidical Hills, and Hills of the same Kind, are to be seen in several Parts of *England*, but not near so frequently to be met with; and indeed when we consider that the *Danes* were Masters of the greatest Part of *Ireland* ten times longer than they were in Possession of *England*, the Reason is obvious, and the Work easily accounted for. Of the same Model with those represented and described in this Book are the Hills of *Thetford* and *Silbury*, the first in the East, the latter in the West of *England*, and under which, beyond a Doubt, some of the *Danish* Kings lie buried; and such also are manifestly the Foundation-Mounts of the round Castles or Towers of *Windsor*, *York* and *Durham*, which, we are not to learn, were all, and many others, originally prime Stations of the *Danes*. Though now much disfigured, and, in a manner, lost in additional Works and Buildings.

ANOTHER very considerable Mount, of this Sort, I lately observed since I left *Ireland*, at *Barkhamstead* in *Hertfordshire*, from whence, (as *Burghamsted*) a modern Historian, derives the Name of that Town, which was formerly a Place of great Strength and Consequence, the Seat of the Kings of *Mercia*, long successively a Seat of the first Peers of *England*, last of the Black Prince, since annexed to the Principality of *Wales*, as part of the Dutchy of *Cornwall*.

D. Burgt te Leiden in *Holland*, is a Work of the same Sort with these above described, and said to be a Monument raised by Order of *Hengist*, soon after his Conquest of *Kent*; but this Point has been disputed, and wants Confirmation. The Keep or Crown-work of Stone upon the Top of it, is judged to be of later Date than that of the Mount itself, as most of those, I guess, have been, whose Foundation (on like Hills) are frequently to be met with, both as mentioned above, and as represented in the foregoing Plans.

Here it may not be improper to add before I take leave of these *Tumuli*, that besides that of *Atherdee*, which is, in a manner, covered with Wood, I have seen several in *Ireland* overgrown with a Sort of shrubby Witch-Elm, rising, as we may justly suppose, from old Roots of those Kind of Trees, into Brush-wood. And we find from *Andromache's* Description of her Father *Aetion's* Monument, raised by *Achilles*, that it was a Custom also amongst the antients to adorn the Tombs of their Dead Heroes with Trees, especially such as bear no Fruit, as *Elms* and *Alders*, &c. these being supposed most suitable to the Dead.

*Then rais'd a Mountain where his Bones were burn'd,
The Mountain Nymphs the rural Tomb adorn'd,
Jove's Sylvan Daughters bade their Elms bestow
A barren Shade, and in his Honour grow.**

* See the Notes on this Passage of *Pope's Homer's Iliad*, B. 17. v. 530, &c.

The End of the First Book.

Book . I .

Plate . I .



P.II.



B.I.

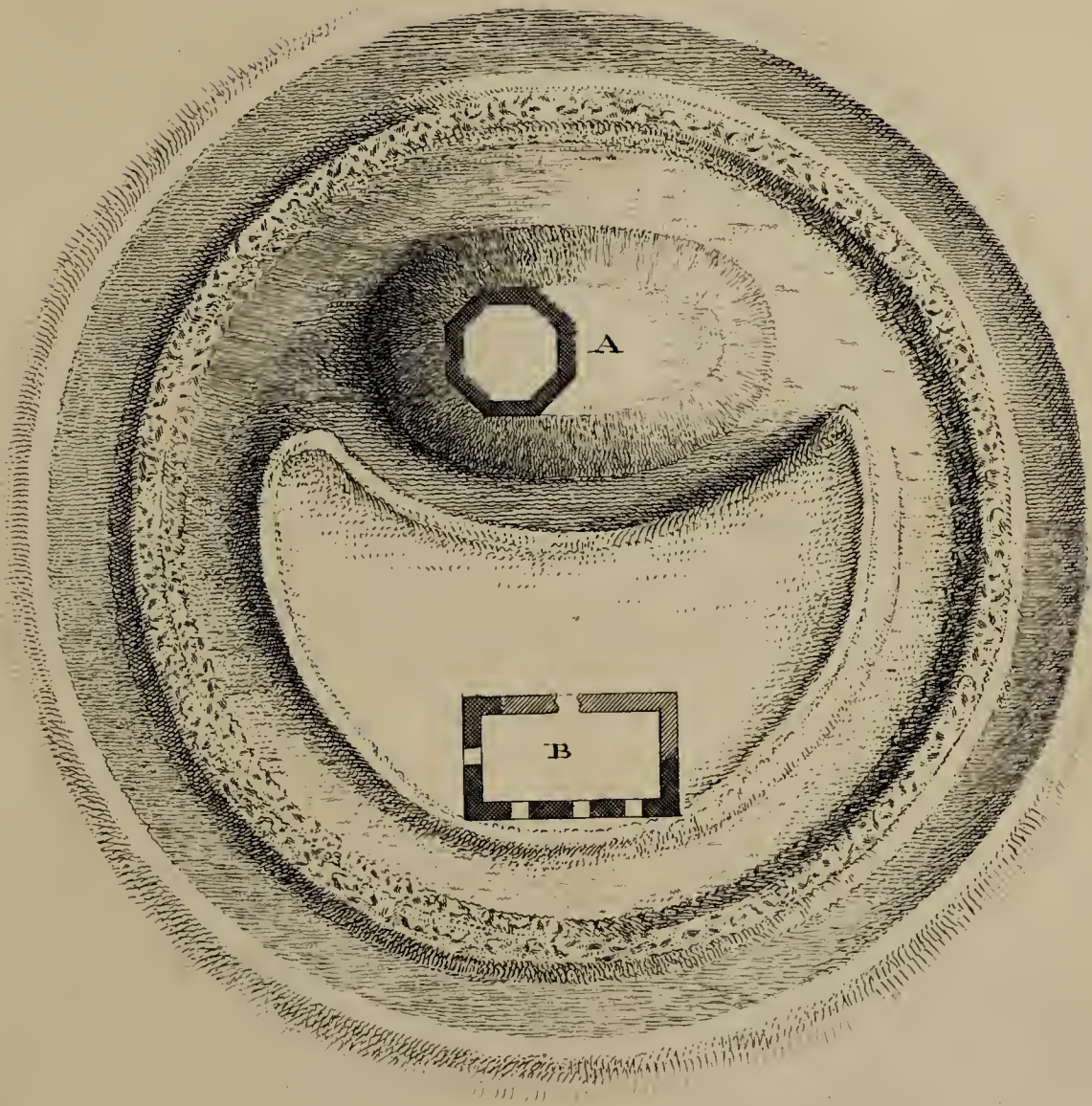
B.I.

P.III.



B. I.

P. IV.



B.I.

P.V.

Fig. 1.

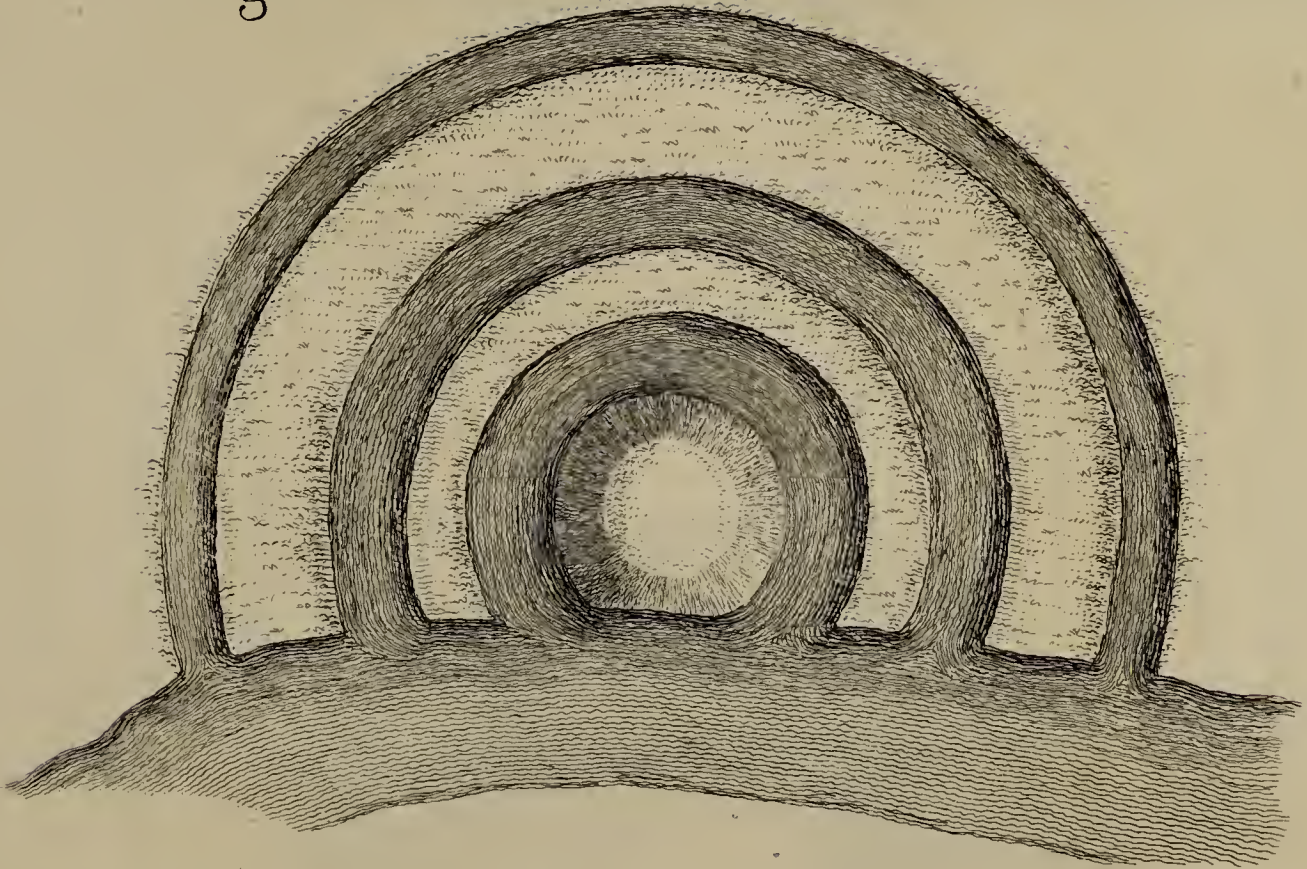
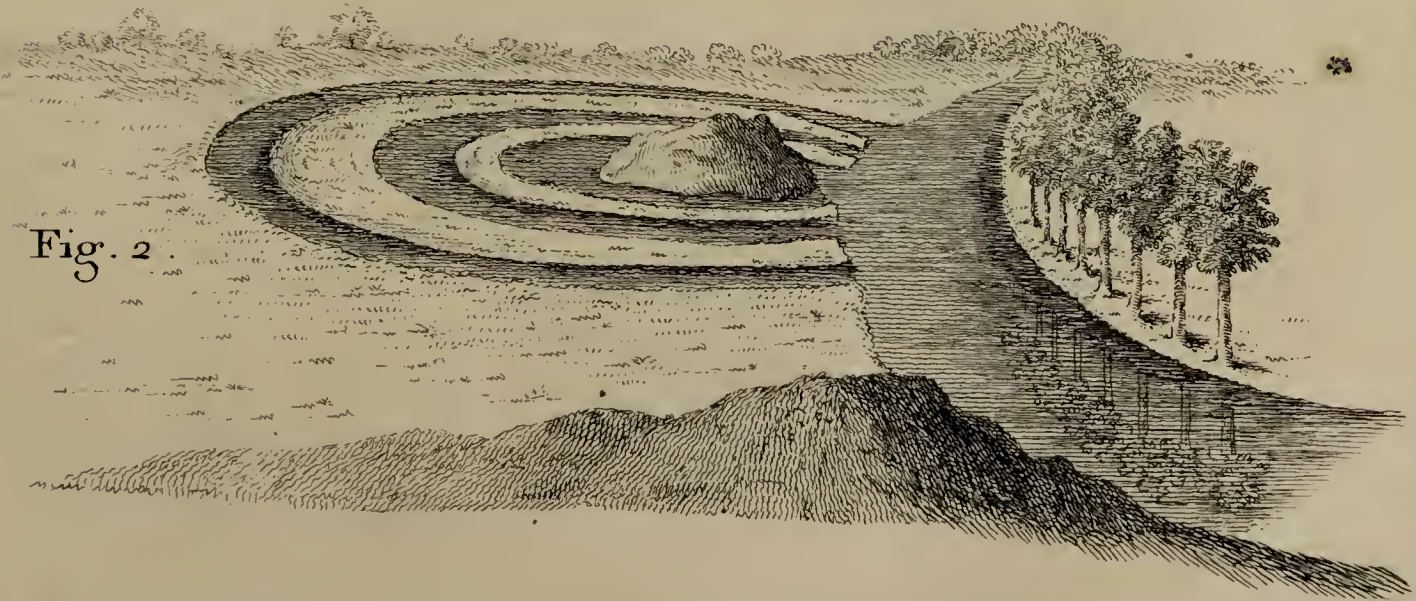
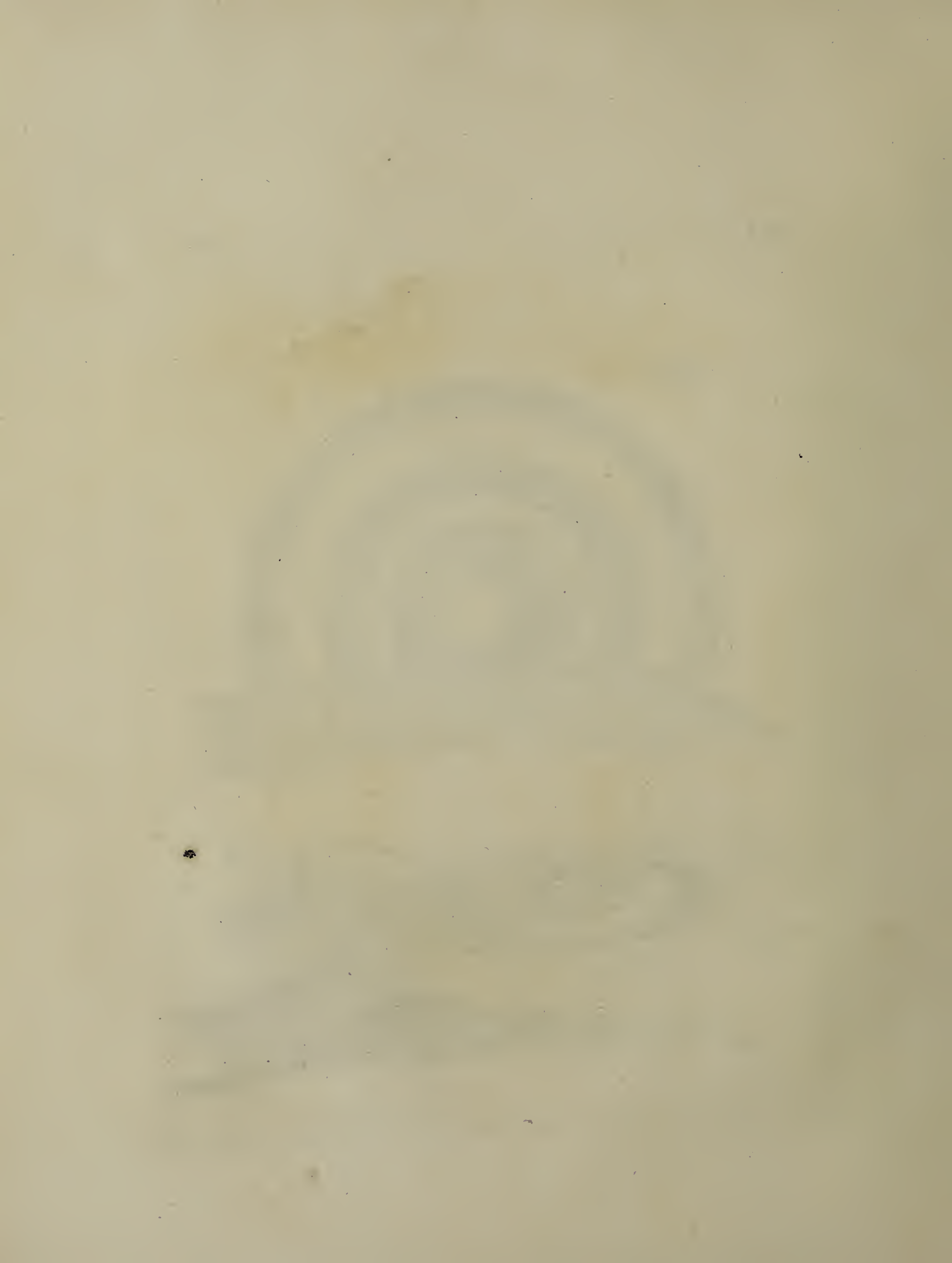


Fig. 2.





B.I.

P.VI.

Fig. 1.

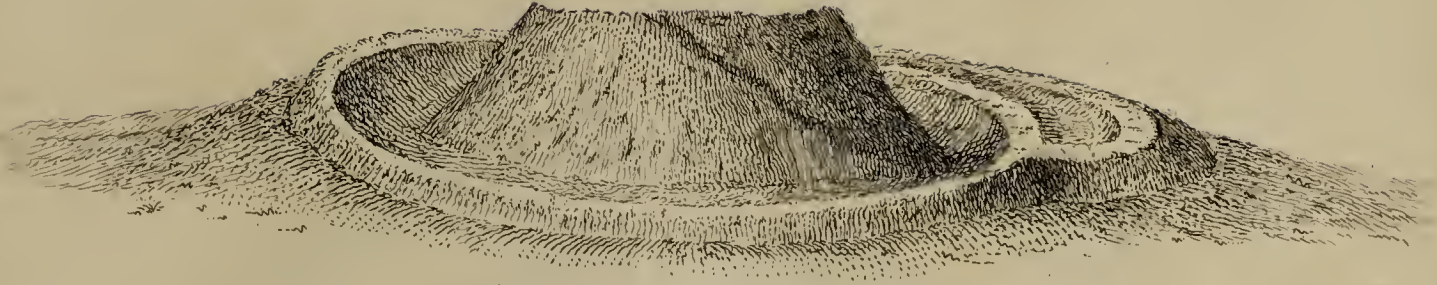
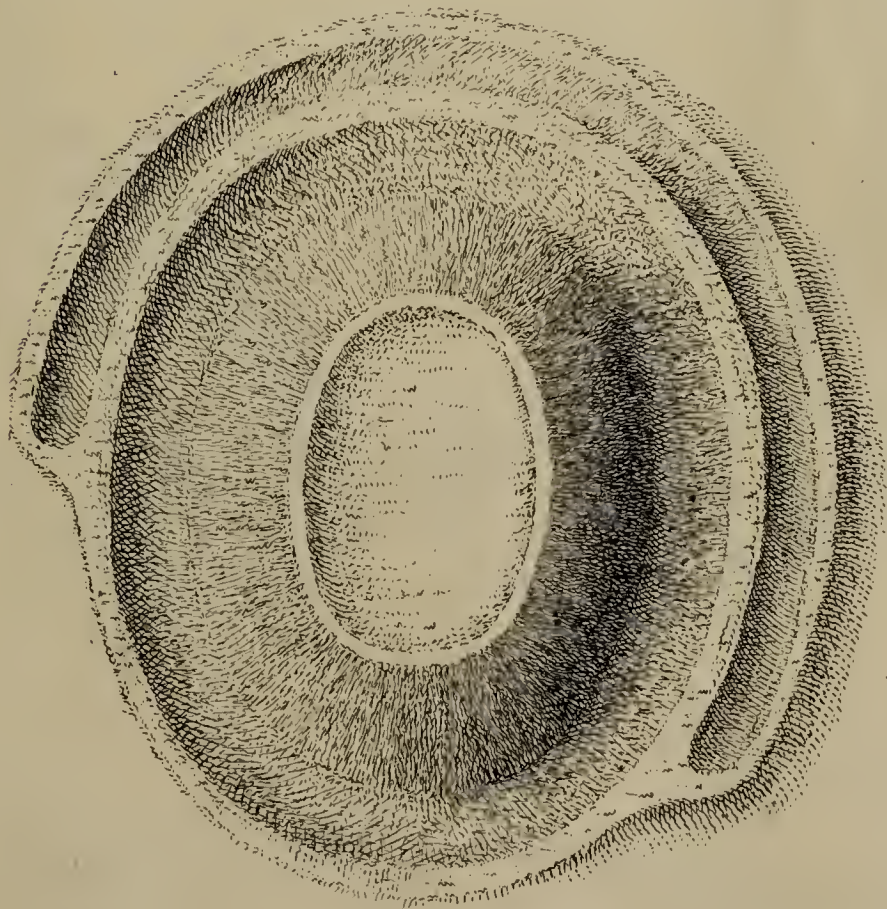
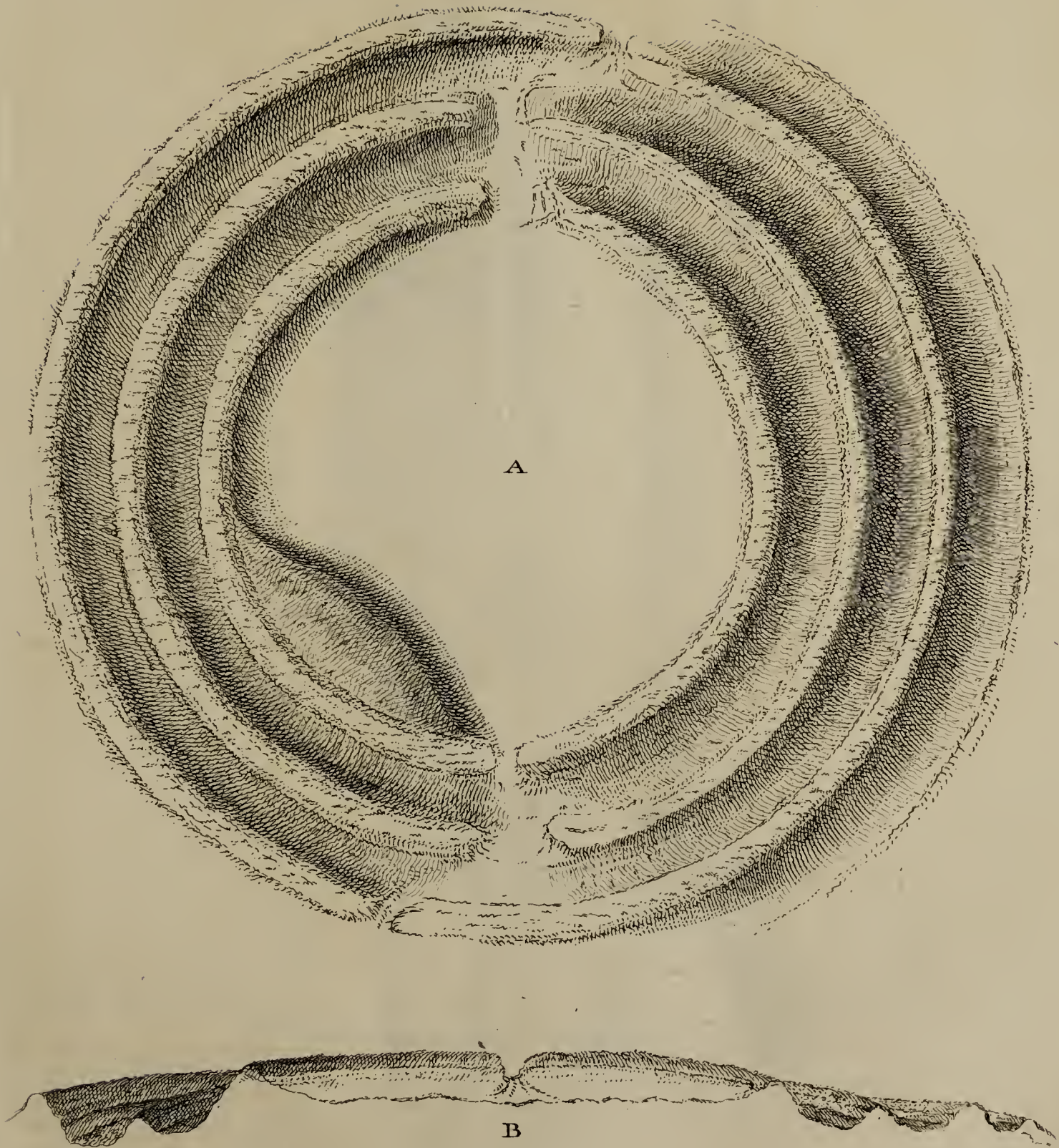


Fig. 2



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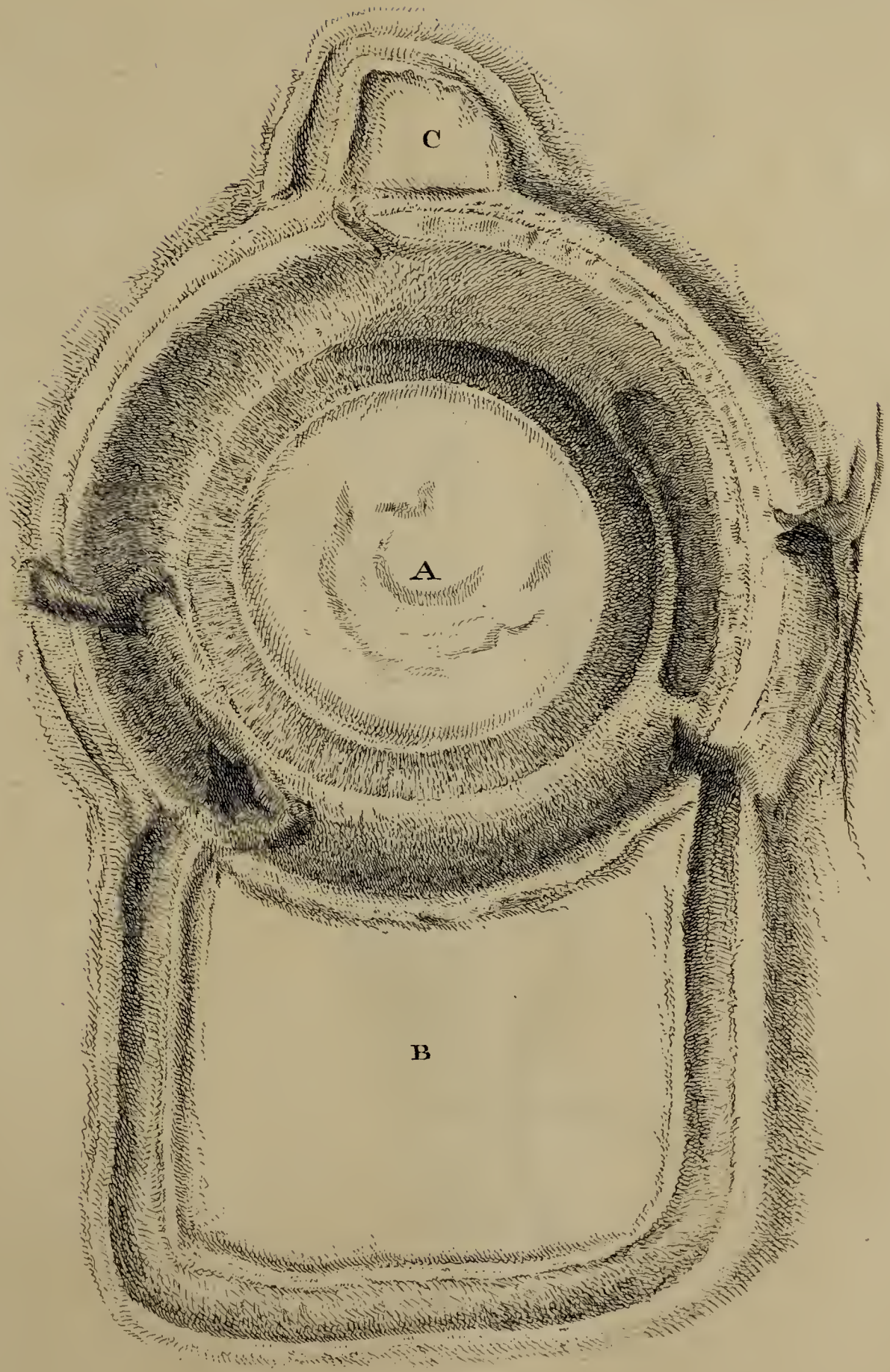
P. VII .



P.VIII.

B.I.





B. I.

P. X.



B. I.

P. XI.

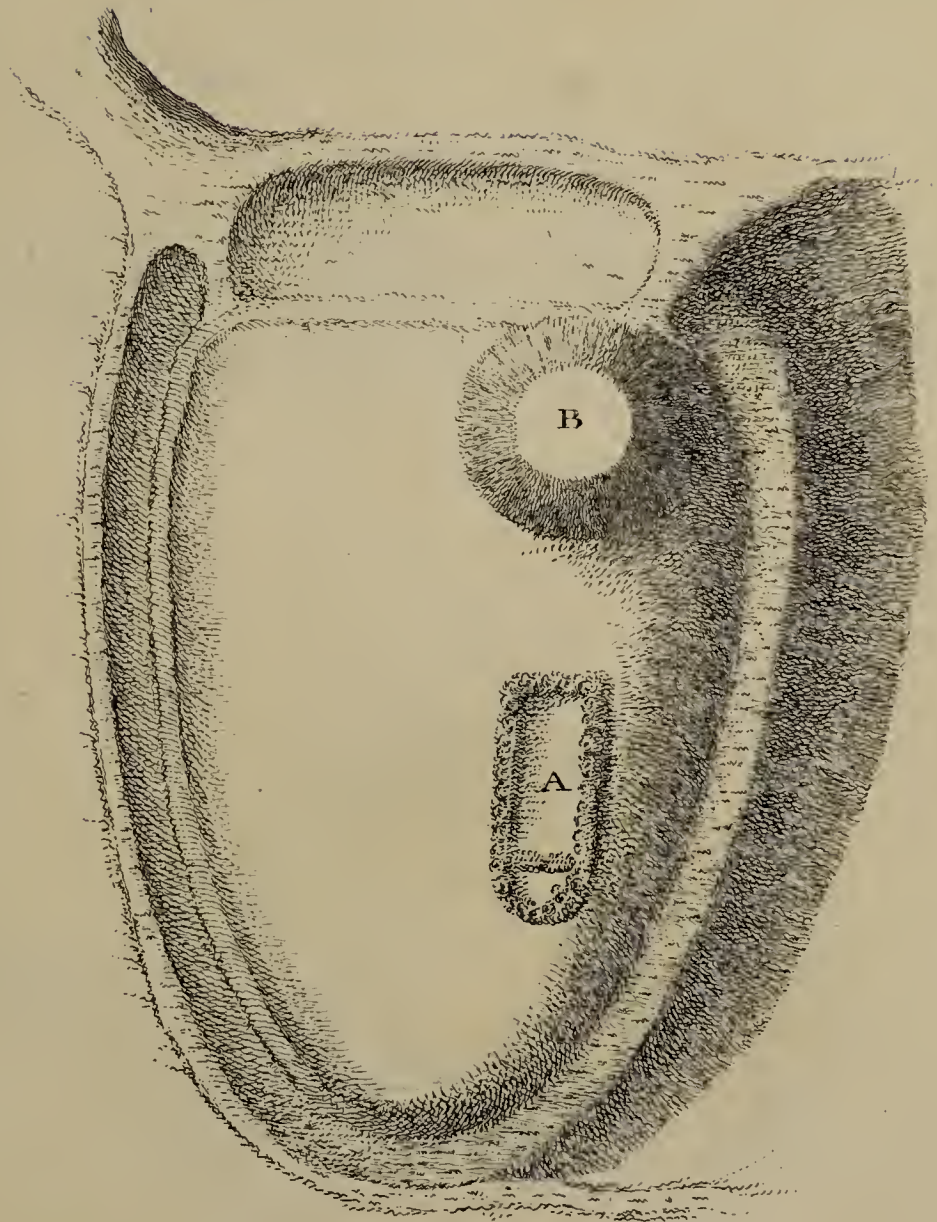


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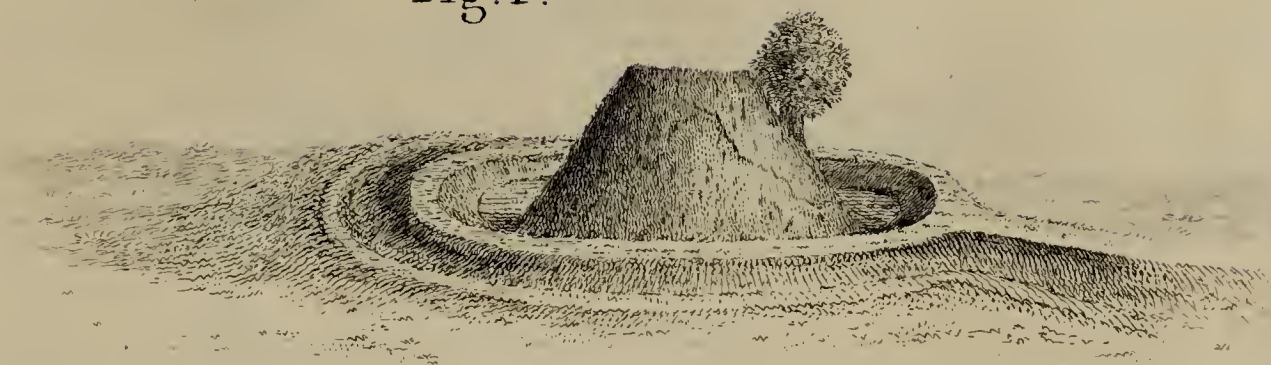


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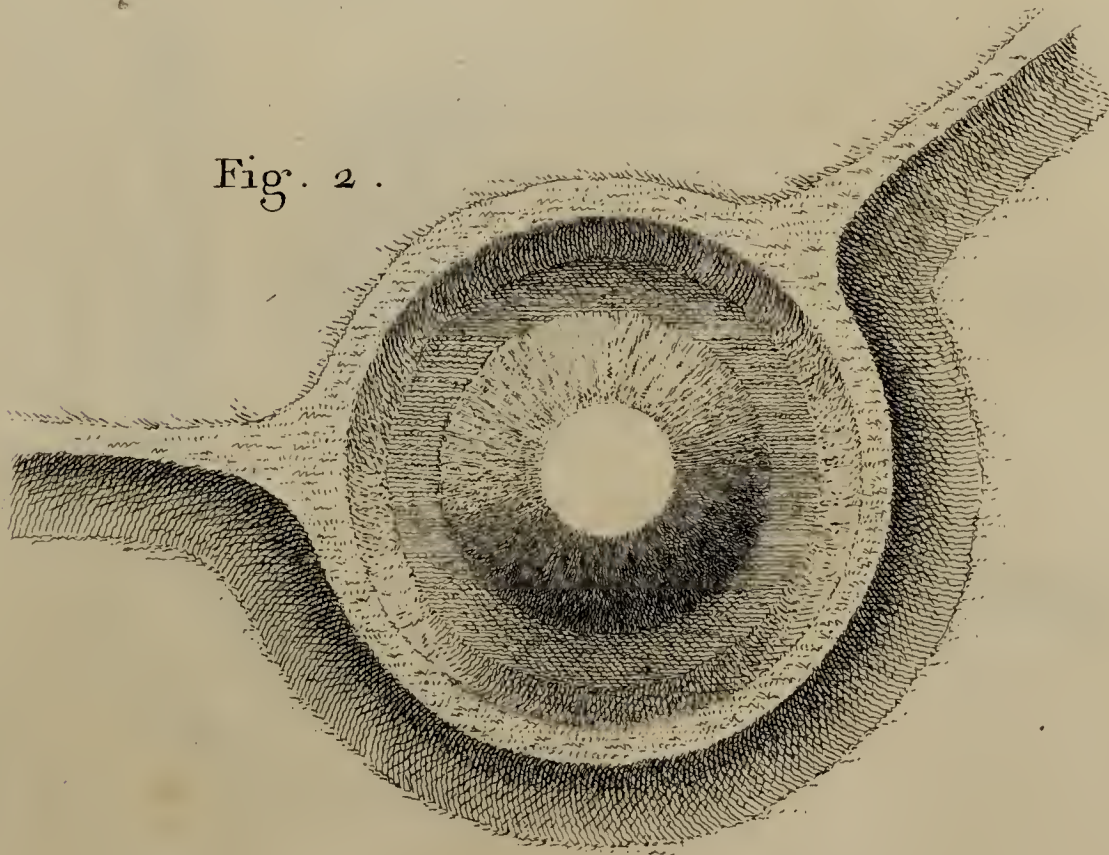


Fig. 1 .

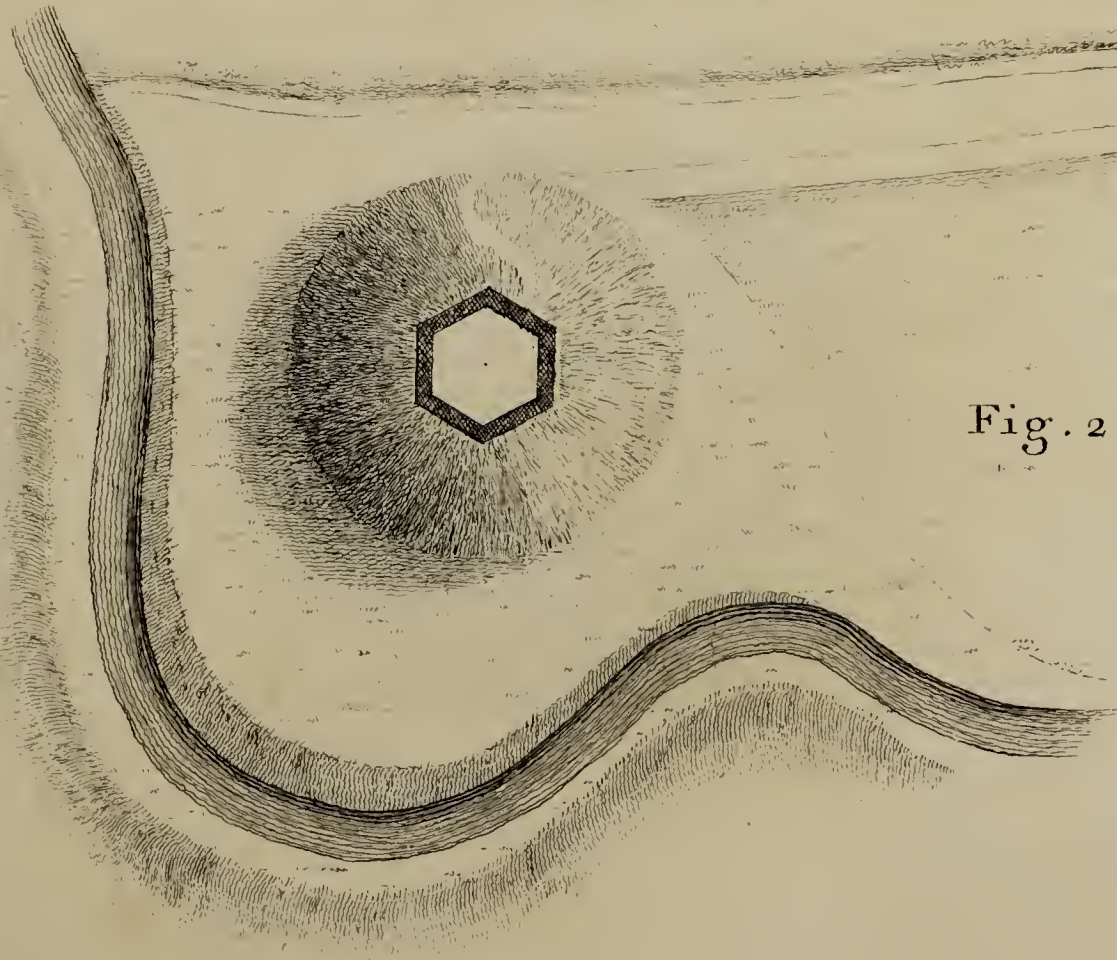
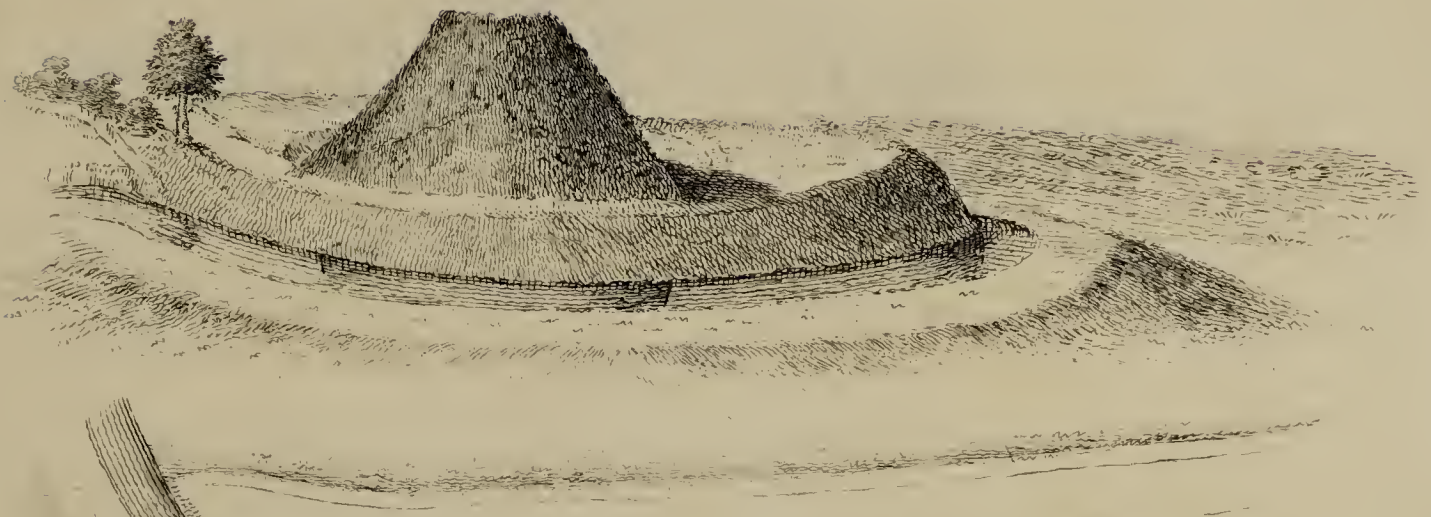


Fig. 2 .

B. I.

P. XIV.

Fig. 1.

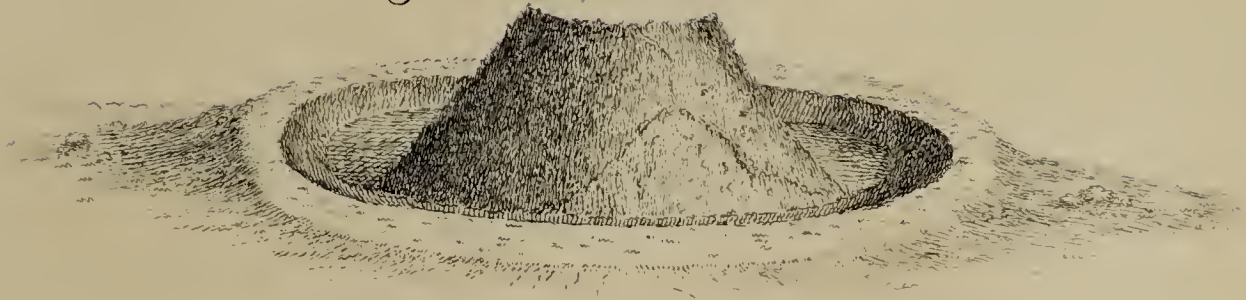
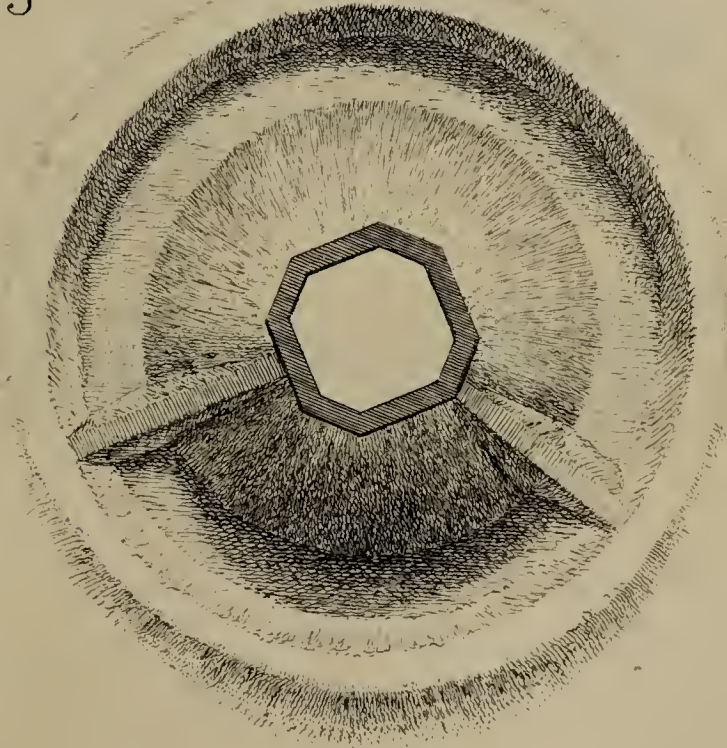


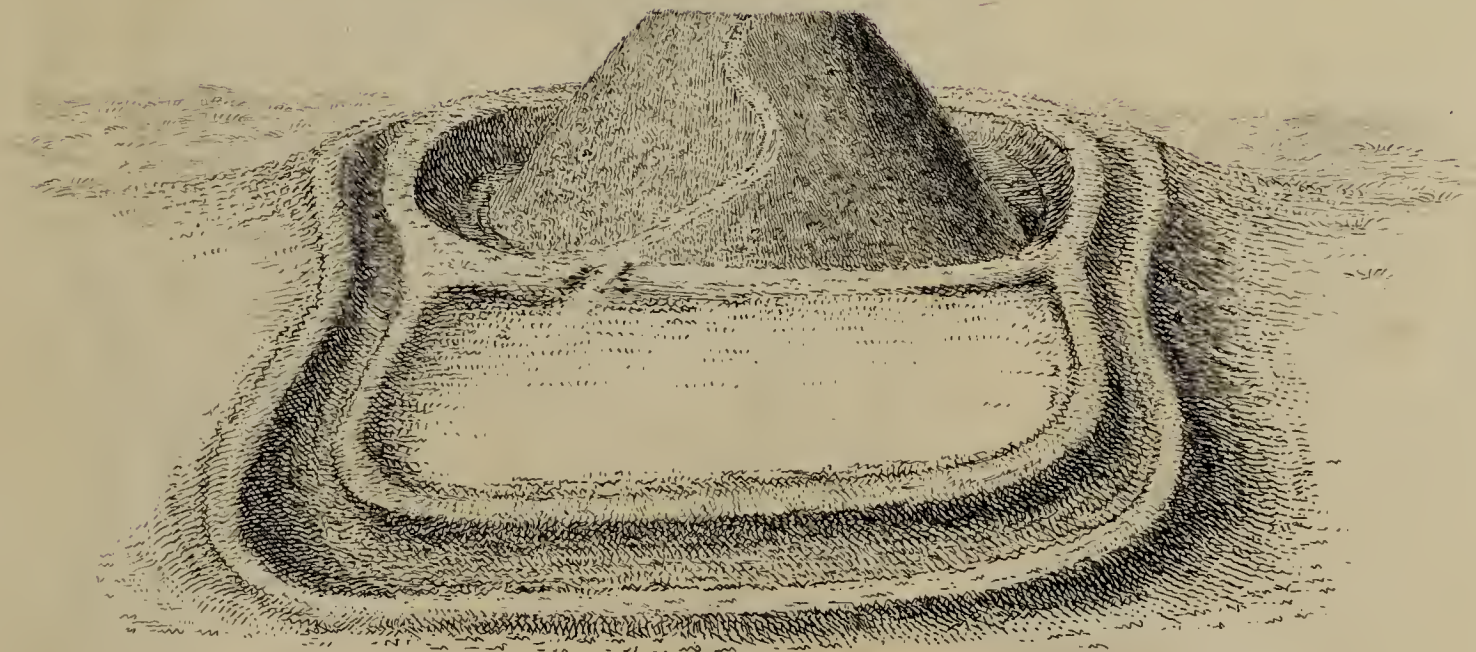
Fig. 2.





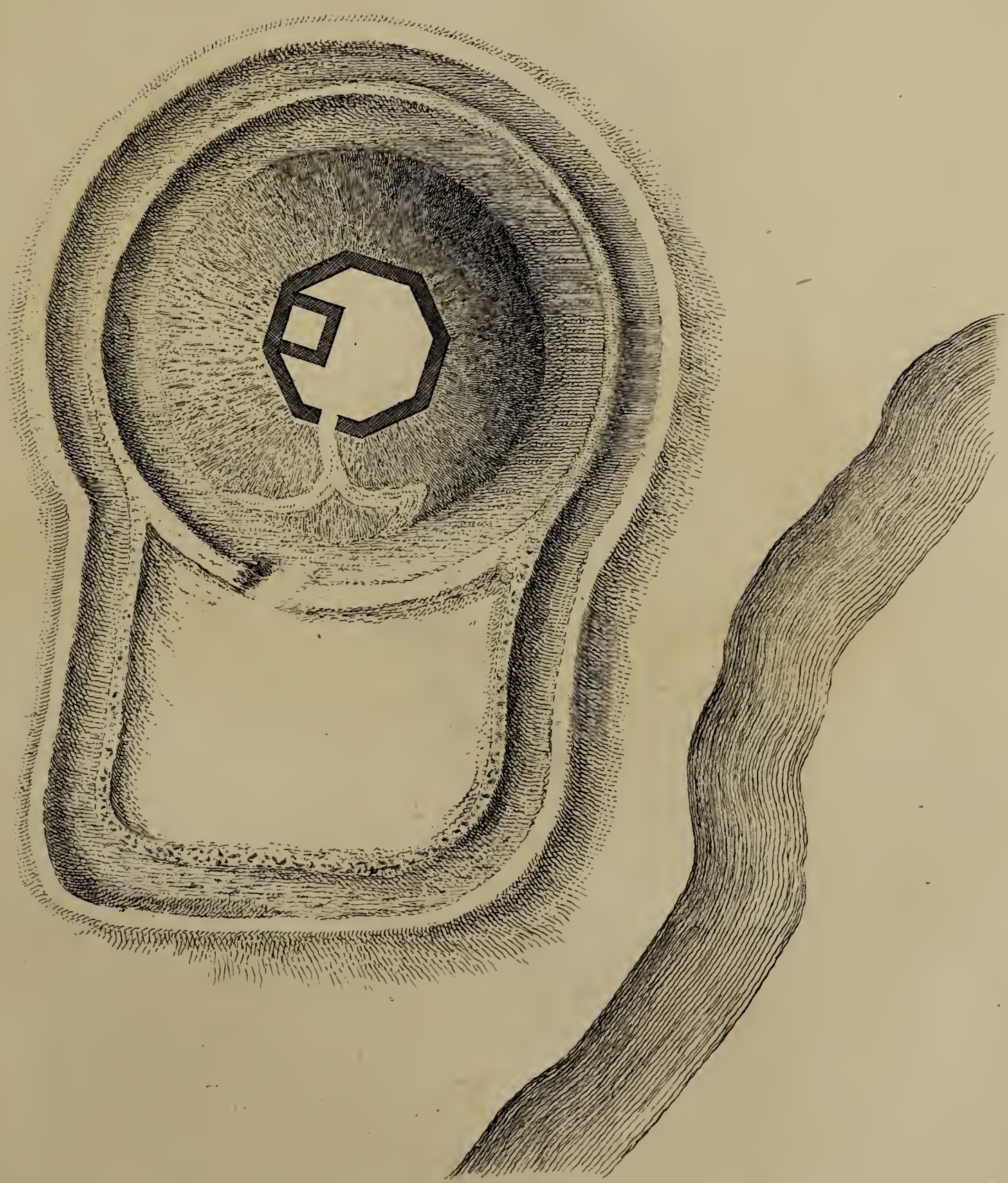
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P. XV.



B. I.

P. XVI.

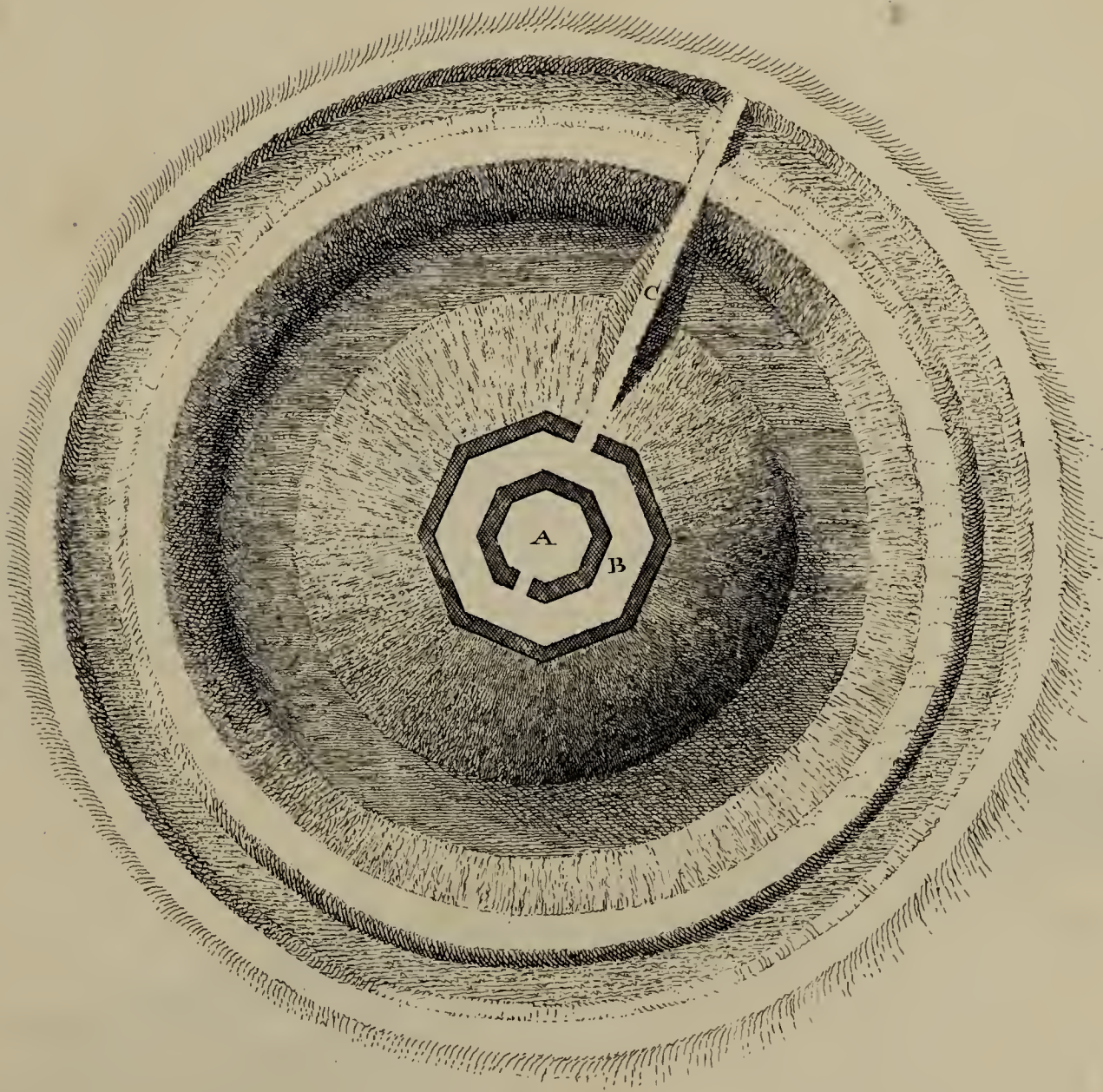


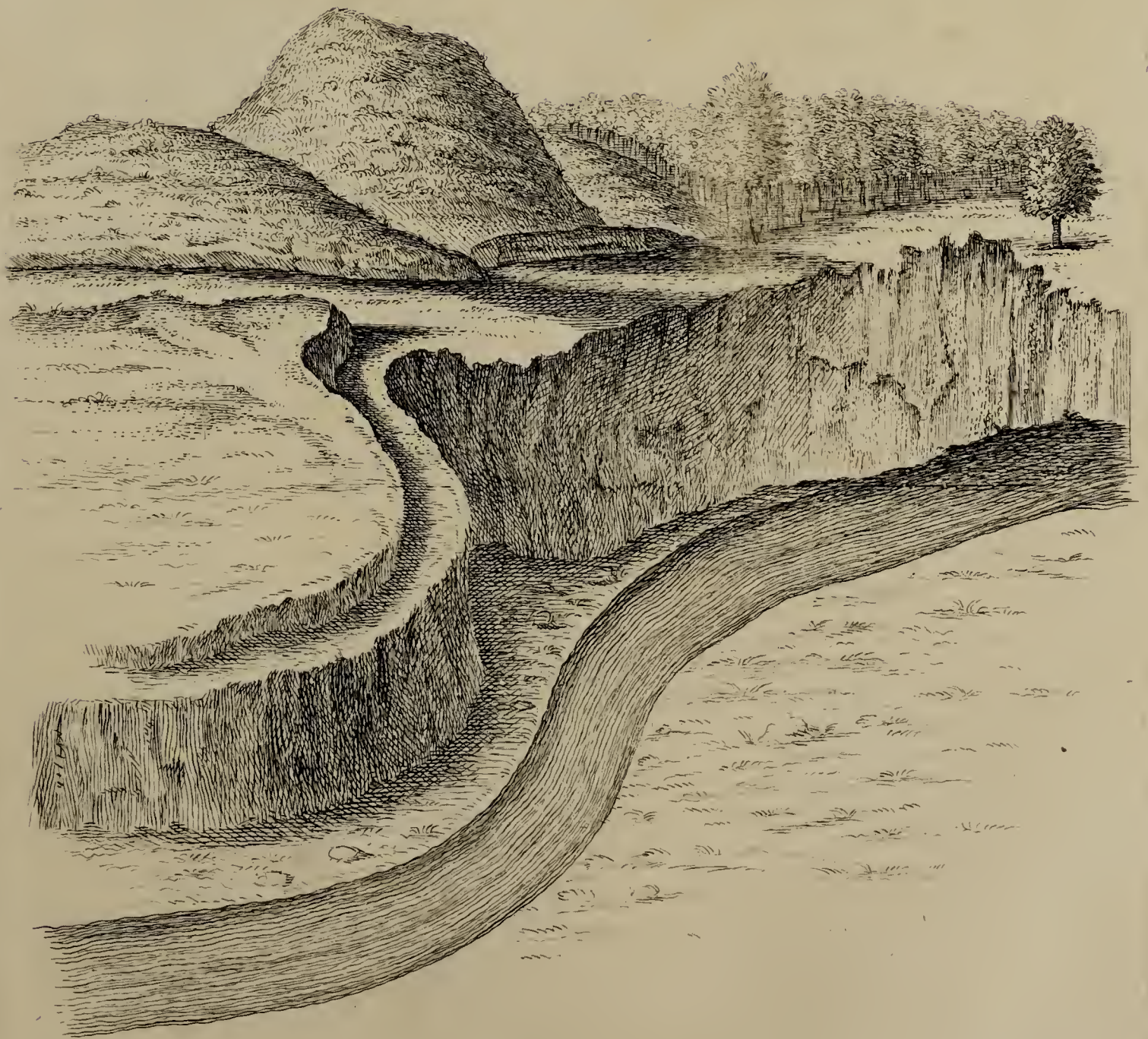


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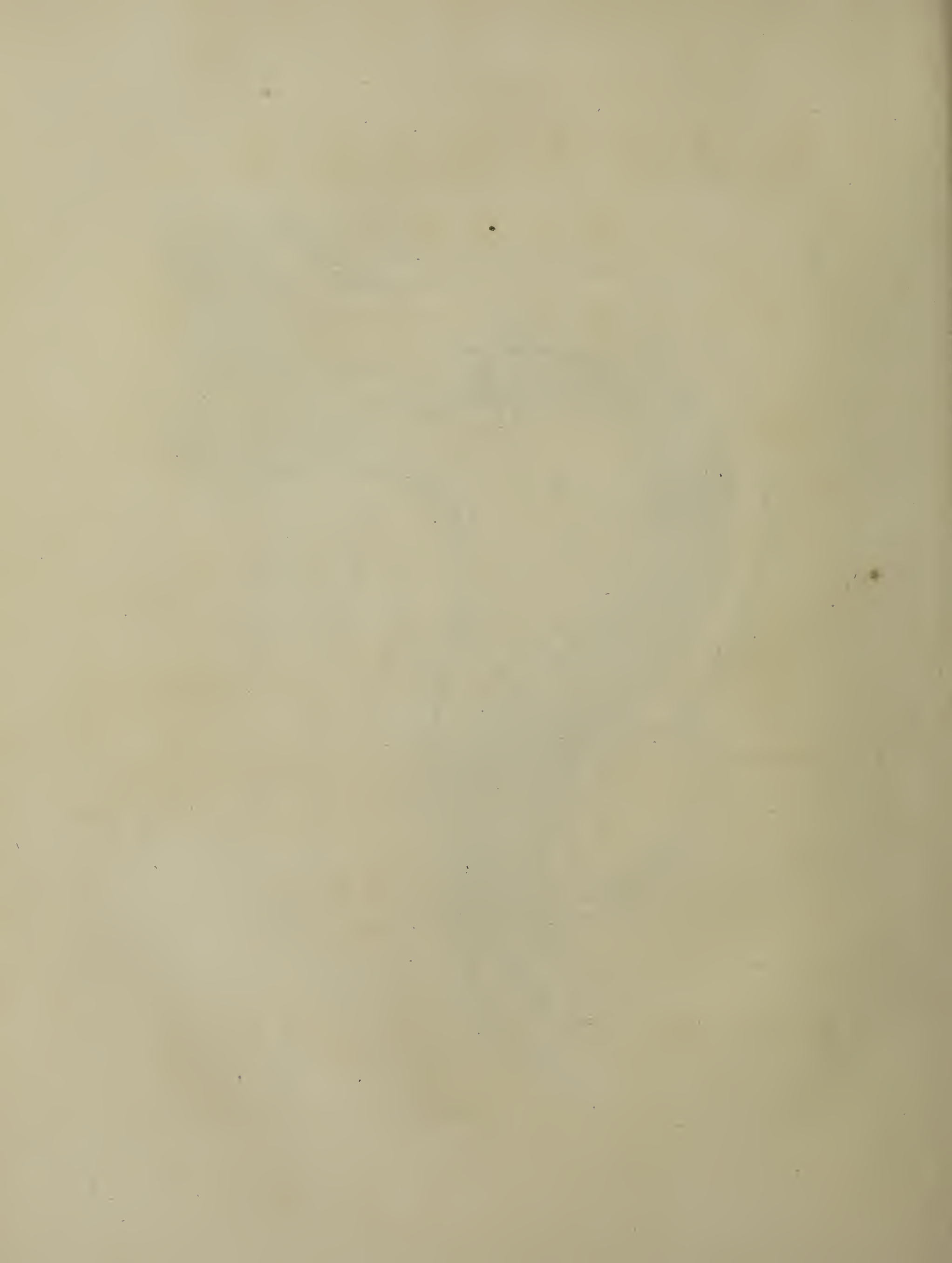
P. XVII.











L O U T H I A N A:

B O O K II.

P L A N S and V I E W S

O F T H E

Principal C A S T L E S, K E E P S, and T O W E R S

I N T H E

C O U N T Y of L O U T H,

F O R M E R L Y

The Habitations of the Nobility and Gentry.

In T W E N T Y - F O U R P L A T E S.

As taken upon the Spot by

T. W R I G H T.

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M D C C X L V I I I.

T H E
C O N T E N T S.

P L A T E I. FIG. 1, and 2,

TH E *Plan and View of the Remains of a Tower at Hanestown, three Miles from Dundalk.*

P L A T E II.

FIG. 1. and 2. *Plan and View of the Remains of an old Castle at Milltown.*

P L A T E III.

View of the Castle of Derver.

P L A T E IV.

The Plan of Ditto, with the Ichnography of the Battlement Walk.

P L A T E V.

View of the Castle of Killingcool belonging to John Gernand, Esq;

P L A T E VI.

Plan of the same.

P L A T E VII.

View of the Castle of Carlingford, said to be built by Order of King John.

P L A T E VIII.

Plan of the same.

P L A T E IX.

View of Castle Roch upon the West Frontier of the English Pale, said to be built in the Reign of Henry II.

P L A T E X.

View of the Remains of the Castle of Dungooly, formerly one of the Seats of Tyrone.

P L A T E XI.

Rood's Town Castle upon an Eminence about two Miles from Atherdee.

P L A T E XII.

FIG. 1. *Plan of the Castle of Ballug near Cooly Point, North of Dundalk Bay.*

FIG. 2. *Plan of the Castle of Dunmanhan.*

P L A T E XIII.

Plan of the Castle of Glas-Pistol.

P L A T E XIV.

Plan of the Castle of Clonmour, two Miles from Dunleer towards the Sea.

P L A T E

The C O N T E N T S.

P L A T E XV.

A View of the Castle of Rath, three Miles from Carlingford.

P L A T E XVI.

Plan of the same.

P L A T E XVII.

*View of the Town-Castle of Atherdee; here we found a poor old grey headed Man, imprisoned for a Debt of six English Shillings, whom we released. **

P L A T E XVIII.

Plan of the same.

P L A T E XIX.

View of the Castle of Torfecken, three Miles from Drogheda, belonging to the Lord Primate, and last inhabited by Archbishop Usher, but now in Ruins.

P L A T E XX.

Plan of the same.

P L A T E XXI.

View of the Castle of Ballrichan, two Miles from Dundalk West, belonging to Lord Limerick.

P L A T E XXII.

Plan of the same.

P L A T E XXIII.

View of the Castle of Castletown near Dundalk, belonging to Lord Bellew.

P L A T E XXIV.

Plan of the same.

* There are many such Objects of Charity to be found in the *Irish* Prisons, which would require but a small Sum of Money to set them at Liberty.



St Laurence's Gate at Droghedah.



Mouth of the Boyne

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

Principal CASTLES, KEEPS, and TOWERS remaining in the County of *Louth*, as represented in the Second Book.



PLATE II.

Milltown Castle.



HIS Castle, belonging to *Thomas Fortescue, Esq;* of *Reynaldstown*, is 45 Feet high, and situated in the Midst of a fine inclos'd Country, about four Miles South of *Dundalk*. It appears to be one of the oldest Sort of Habitations now remaining in the County of *Louth*, and the Manner of Building is said to be borrow'd from the *Spaniards*, who formerly were Visitors of this Island. Two or three Furlongs from this Dwelling near the Top of a rising Ground, an arch'd subterraneous Vault was lately discover'd running many Roods under-ground, and supposed to communicate with the said Castle, as a Sally-way for retiring in time of Danger.



PLATE V. and VI.

Castle of Killingcool.

THIS is a small but fine old Castle, situated upon an Eminence half way betwixt *Dundalk* and *Atherdee*, full in View of all the Country round about it, 'Tis built after the same Manner and Stile of that of *Milltown*, and has been attended with other external Works; underneath it are many and various Vaults and Caves of 9, 10, and 12 Feet square, running into one another, and said to communicate by a long subterraneous Passage with *Castle Derver*, distant about six Furlongs, from whence 'tis imagined, in case of Surprise, one Castle formerly assisted the other. It belongs to *John Gernand, Esq;* but it is not now inhabited.

PLATE

P L A T E VII. and VIII.

The King's Castle at Carlingford.

Carlingford Castle, called also *King's Castle*, is said to have been built by a King of *England*, about the Reign of King *John*, and 'tis generally believed 'twas built by Order of that Prince, when he was in this Kingdom about the Year 1210. Formerly it must have been a very fine Pile of Building, and seems by its Situation designed to defend a narrow Pass at the Foot of the Mountains, close by the Sea, where but a very few Men can march abreast, dangerous Rocks and a deep Sea being below on one side, and very high Mountains on the other, the least 700 Yards perpendicular.

THE Foundation of it is a solid Rock, washed by the Sea, and some of the Walls are eleven Feet thick. On one side of it there appears to have been a Platform or Battery, which some time or other may have been adapted for the Defence of the Harbour, which is one of the finest in *Ireland*. The old Town of *Carlingford* seems to have been originally all small Castles, which appears to have been the common kind of Habitations in this Country, and the Manner of Building in those Days; *Dundalk* formerly having also been full of the like sort of Dwellings.

ON the opposite End of the Town to that of the Castle, there is still to be seen the ruinous Remains of a fine Monastery; and not far from it, upon the Summit of a neighbouring Hill, a spacious Burying Ground, and a little Church or Chapel adjoining to it. By Reason of the Position and Height of the neighbouring Mountains, the Inhabitants of this Town, great part of the Summer Season, lose Sight of the Sun several Hours before he sets in the rational Horizon.

P L A T E IX.

Castle-Roch.

THIS noble Ruin is situated upon the Summit of a rocky Hill, near the West Borders of the County of *Louth*, and was formerly one of the frontier Castles of the *English Pale*; it stands very high and commands a full View of all the neighbouring Country round it, the Area within the Rampart Walls resembles the Form of a Triangle, or rather inclining to that of a Semicircle, following the irregular Form of the Hill, and taking all Advantages of the Rock 'tis placed upon. The great Chord, which is the Front and longest Side, is about Eighty Yards, and the versed Sine or Breadth is about Forty: At the opposite Corner to that of the main Dwelling, has been formerly a Tower of Defence; but now quite demolished; and under it is a Sally-Port.

'Tis

'TIS reported to have been built by *Rose Verden*, an Heiress of the *English Pale*, who married into the *Bellew* Family, the present Possessors: From her 'twas called *Rose-Castle*, and now by Corruption, *Rosh* or *Roch-Castle*. In the Year 1649, it held out for King *Charles*, and was demolished by *Oliver Cromwell*.

PLATE XV. and XVI.

Castle-Rath.

THIS Castle belonging to *Thomas Tipping*, Esq; appears to have been an antient Dwelling of some Person of Distinction, and probably that of a Bishop or Abbot, if we may judge by the Chapel adjoining to it. 'Tis situated on the Plains betwixt the Sea and the Mountains of *Carlingford*, and near it are several old Forts or Rathes, such as the first Invaders, or prime Planters, of the Island are supposed to have inhabited. A few Roods from it is the Remains of a *Tumulus*, or sepulchral Mount; and about a Mile farther, towards the Sea, stands the Tower or Castle of *Ballug*. See its Plan, *Plate XII. Fig. 1.*

PLATE XIX. and XX.

Torfeckan-Castle.

TH ESE Plates represent the Remains of a fine old Castle, belonging to the See of *Armagh*, and formerly one of the Seats of the Lord Primate of all *Ireland*, where he used to reside three Months in the Year.

ARCHBISHOP *Usher* was its last Inhabitant, and now 'tis quite neglected and run to ruin. 'Tis situated near the Sea, and about three Miles from *Drogheda*, by the Side of a small, but pleasant River, and when the Town of *Torfeckan* flourished, in which there is now a very good old Church, there were several other small Castles in the Neighbourhood of it, some of which yet remain; that of *Glass-Pistol* is distant about two *Irish* Miles, and a little farther Eastward is a fine Fishery, the Charter of which is or was held, as I am informed, by the Fishermen's waiting with their Fish a certain time in the Town of *Torfeckan*, till the Lord of the said Castle was first served.

P L A T E XXI. and XXII.

Ballrickan Castle.

B *Allrickan* or *Ballriggeran*, here are the ruinous Remains of a curious old Castle about two Miles distant from *Dundalk*, pleasantly situated between two winding Rivers, upon a small rising Ground almost surrounded, in the Manner of a Peninsula, having the Mountain of *Slavgullion* to the North of it, *Castle Rock* on the West, and that of *Castle Town* Eastward from it, all as bold Points of View, with several other remarkable and agreeable Objects, which every way enliven the Prospect round it,

BEYOND a doubt it has formerly been the Habitation of one of the first Lords of the Pale, and is now in the Possession of the Lord Viscount *Limerick*. 'Tis of a very remarkable Construction, and inclosed within a wall'd Court, capable of containing a numerous Guard of Men. There is a subterraneous Cave and a spacious Vault under it, which seems to have had some Communication with a Sally-port directing towards the Banks of the River which are here very steep, and high.

P L A T E XXIII. and XXIV.

Castle-Town * Castle.

T HIS is a handsome old Castle belonging to Lord *Bellew* in tolerable good Repair, having several Rooms in it very habitable, and at present tenanted by *Thomas Tipping*, Esq; who lives in an adjacent modern House, making use of the Castle only as a Kitchen and Servants Hall: 'Tis situated upon the North Side of an Hill, about a small Mile from *Dundalk*, Westward, seen for several Miles along the great North Road, and commands a full View of the Harbour and Bay, *Slavgullion* and the Mountains of *Carlingford*.

THE fine old *Danish* Station and Mount, which borrows its Name from the Neighbourhood of this Castle, crowns the same Hill, and a little below stands the Ruins of an old Church or Chapel, now covered with Ivy, and only made use of as a Burying Place by the lower Sort of the Roman Catholicks, who are here very numerous.

THE Castle has been once defended by a strong Wall, and other Works of Circumvallation, and not far from it on the Plain below, there has been formerly a very considerable Fort or Camp, little inferior to that above it, being more advantageously situated near the River, which runs close by one Side of it.

* The Town, from whence this Castle takes its Name, was sack'd and destroy'd by *Edward le Bruce*, Brother to the King of *Scotland*, about the Year 1318. *Spencer's Account of Ireland*.

Fig. 1 .

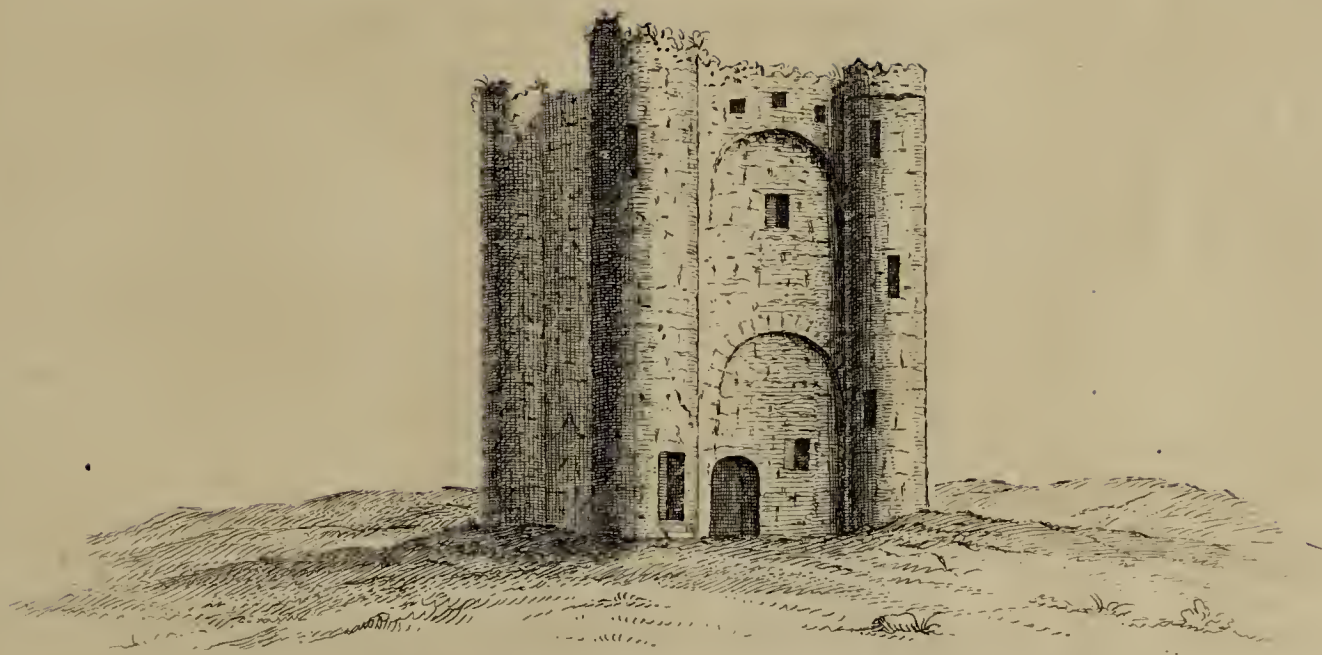
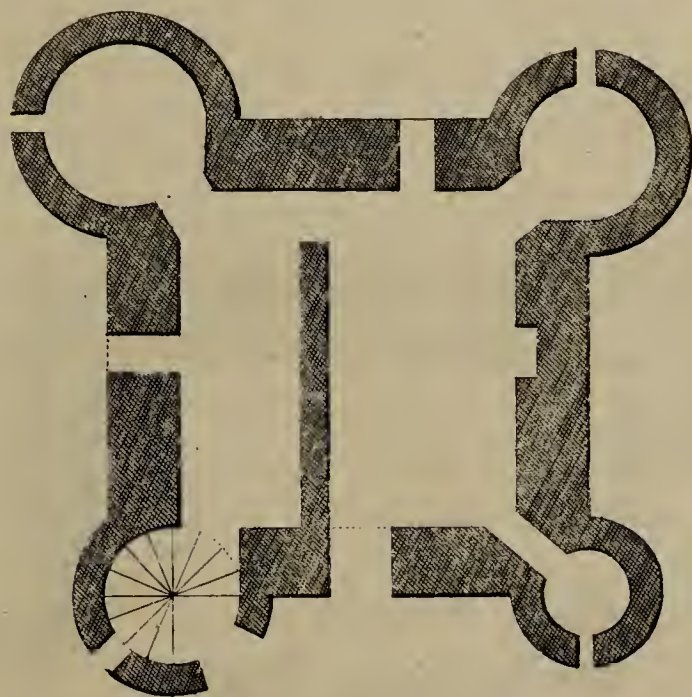
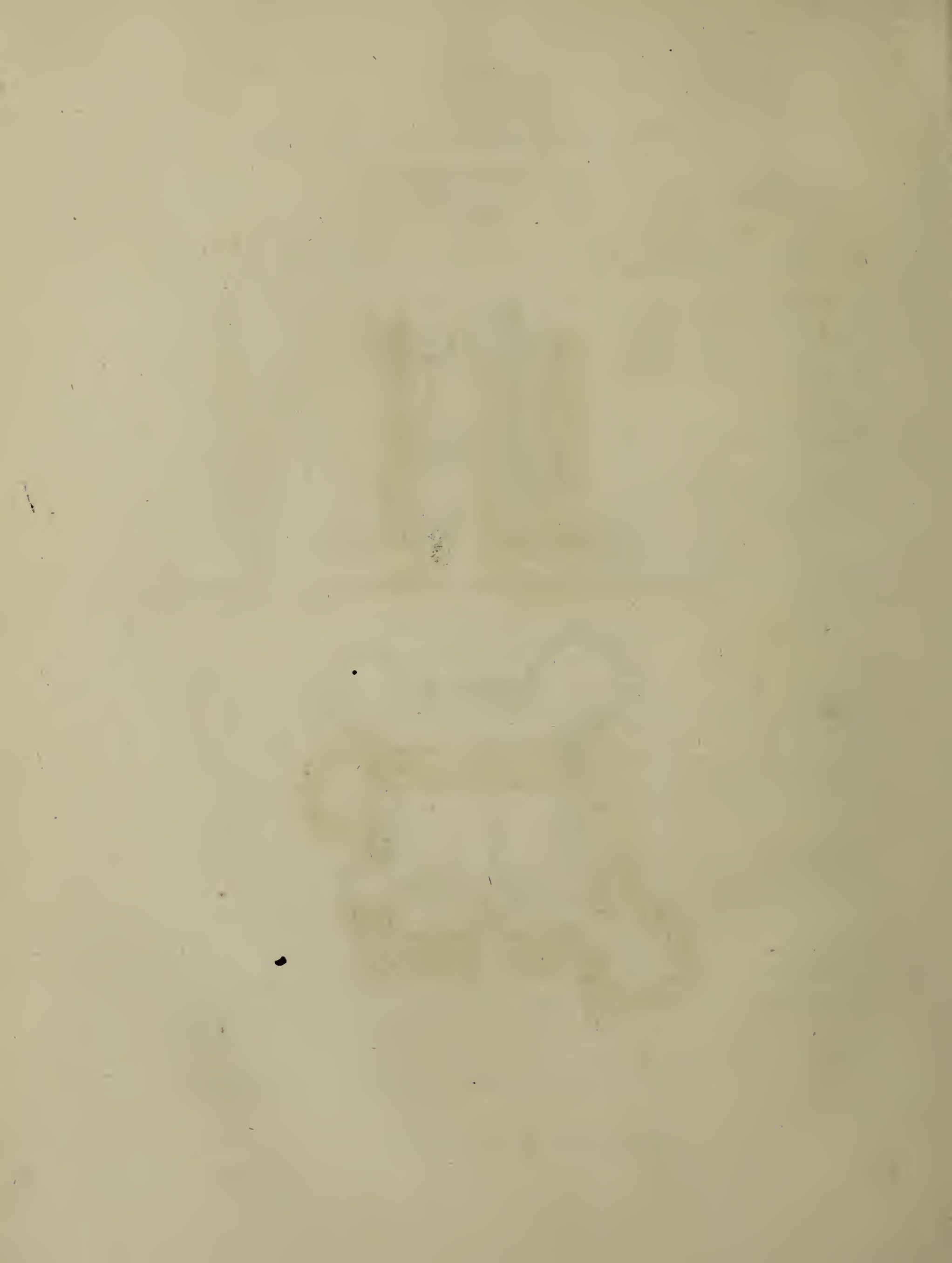


Fig. 2 .





B.II.

P.II.

Fig. 1.

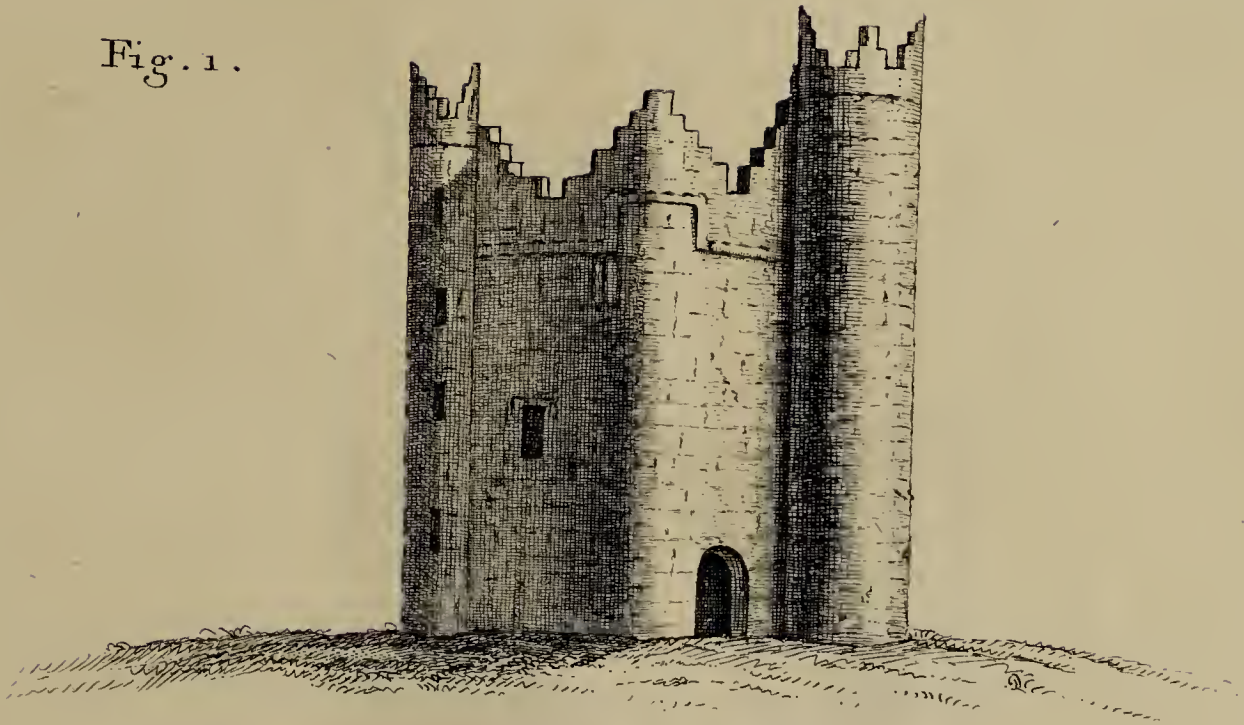
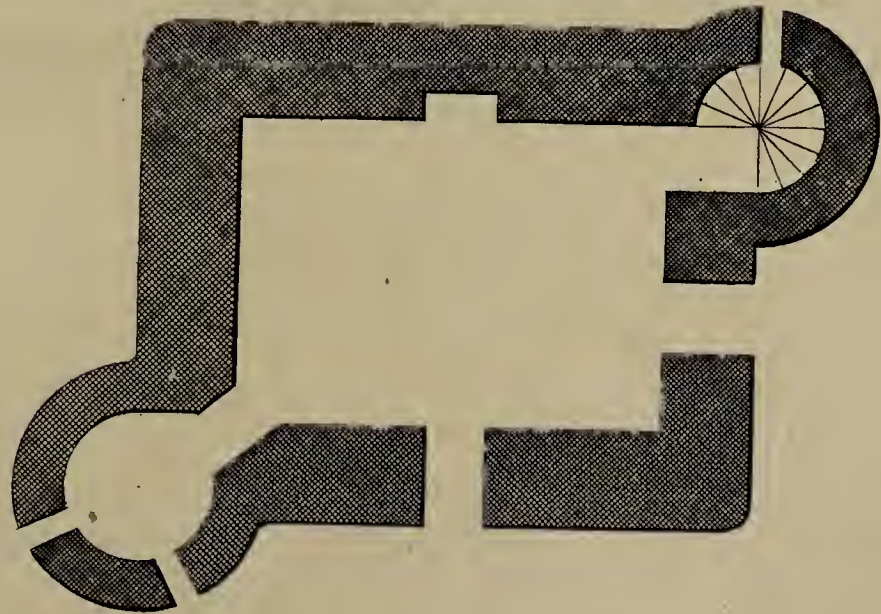
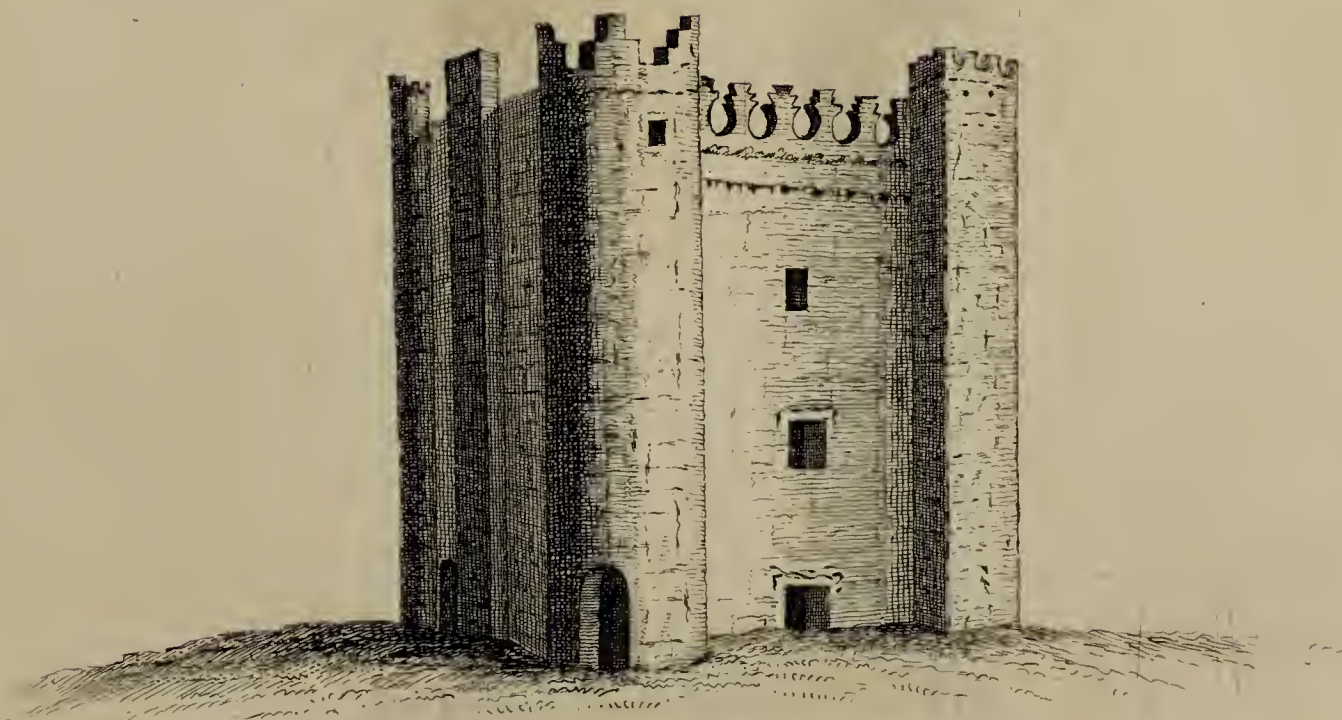


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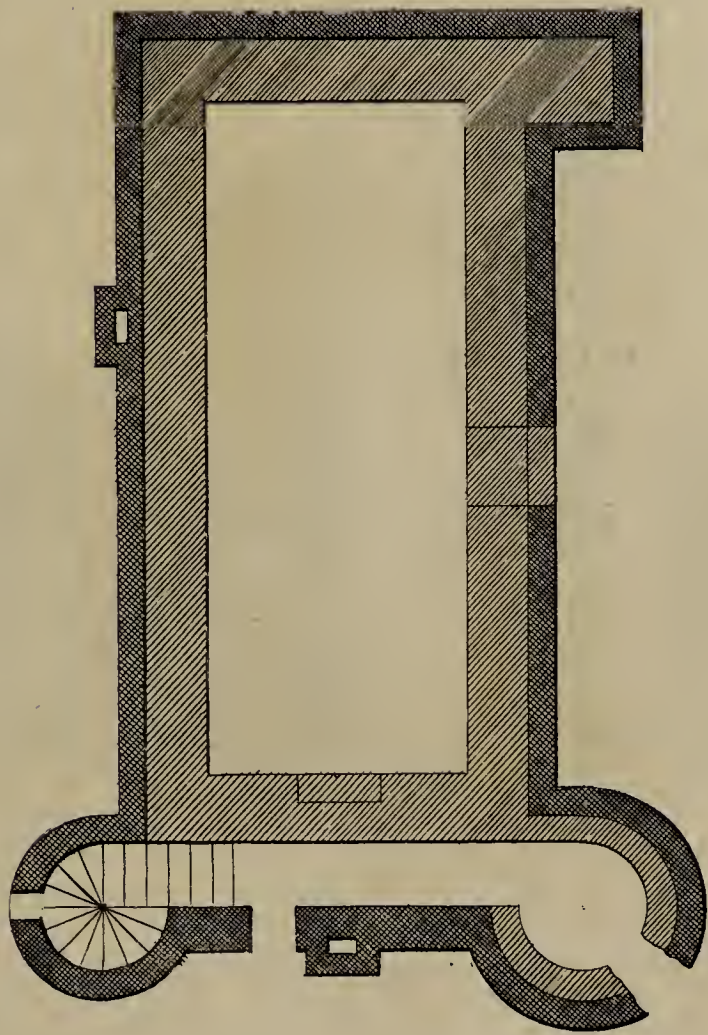
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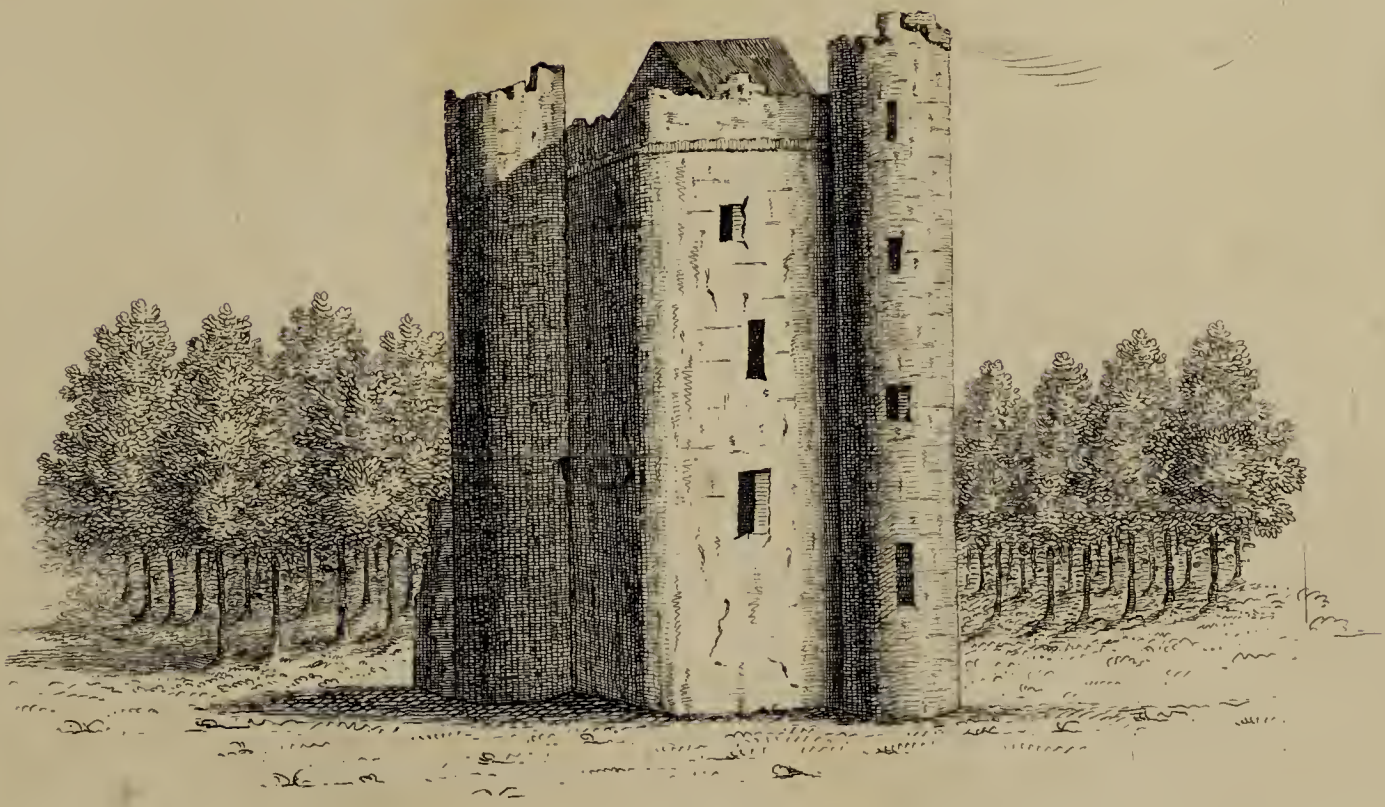
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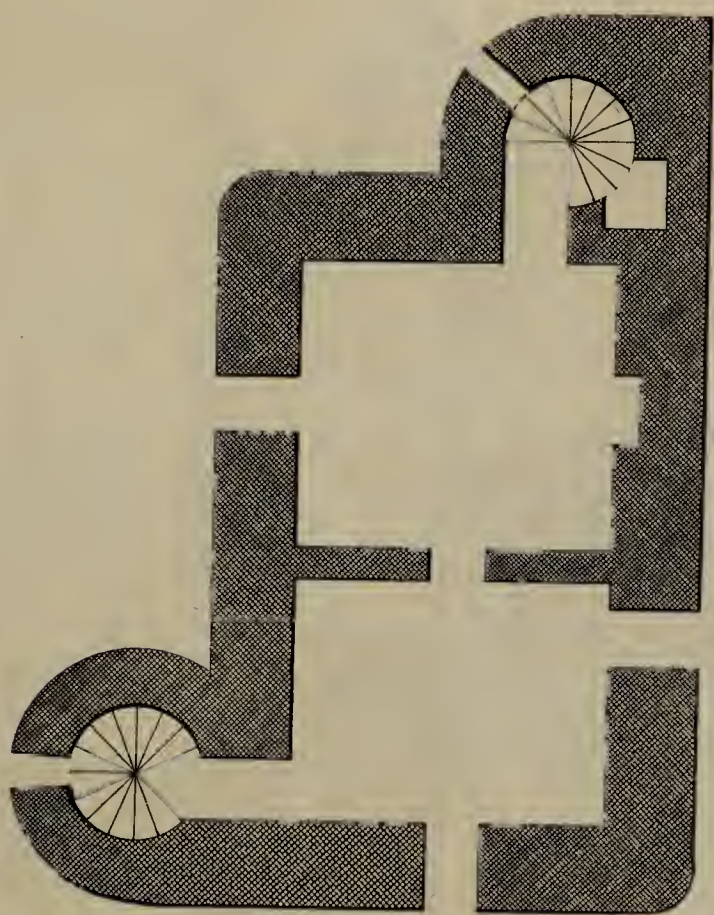
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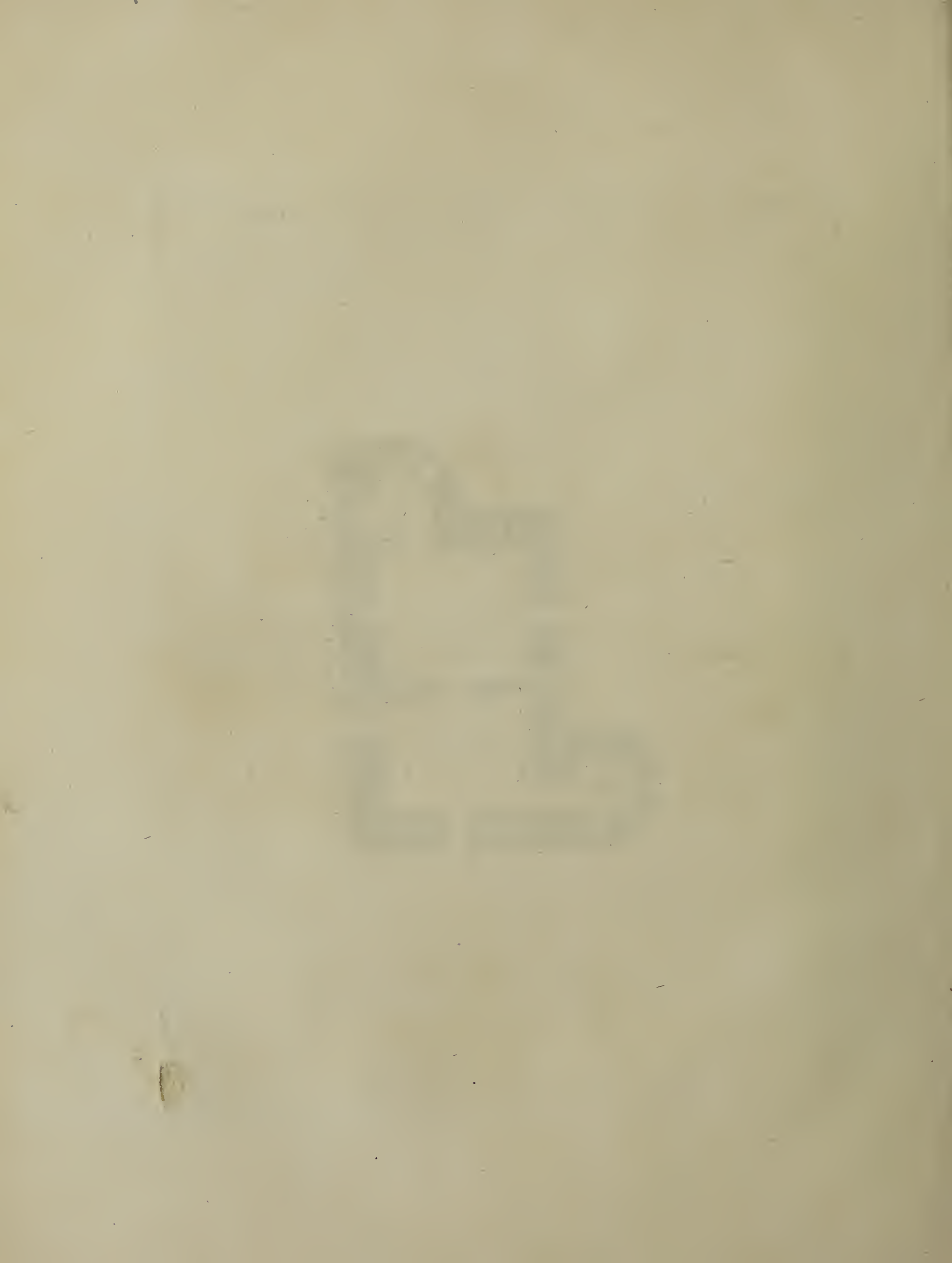


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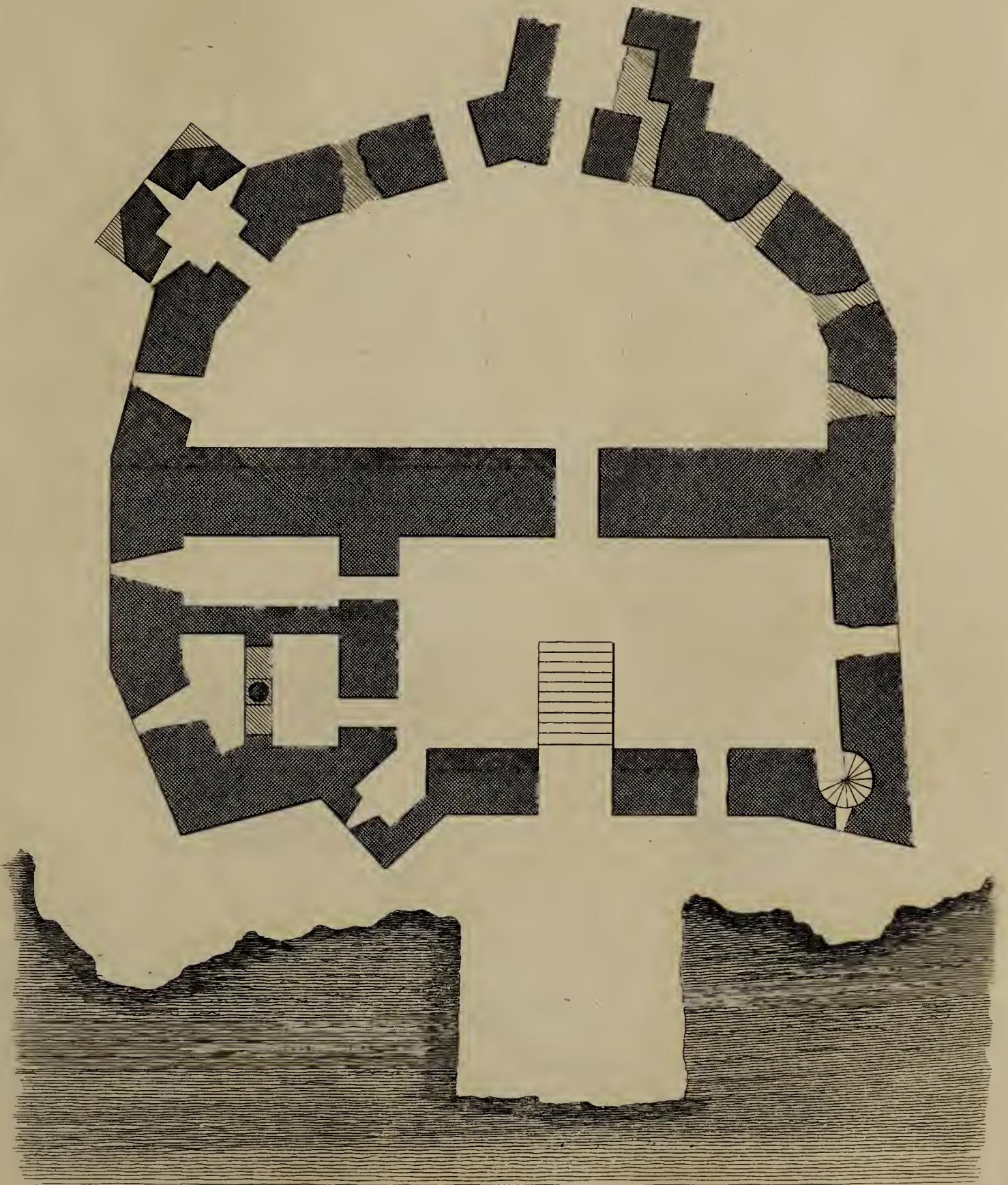






*To my worthy Friend William Read, Esq. Bailiff of
DUNDALK; This Plate is Inscríb'd by his Humble Serv^t*

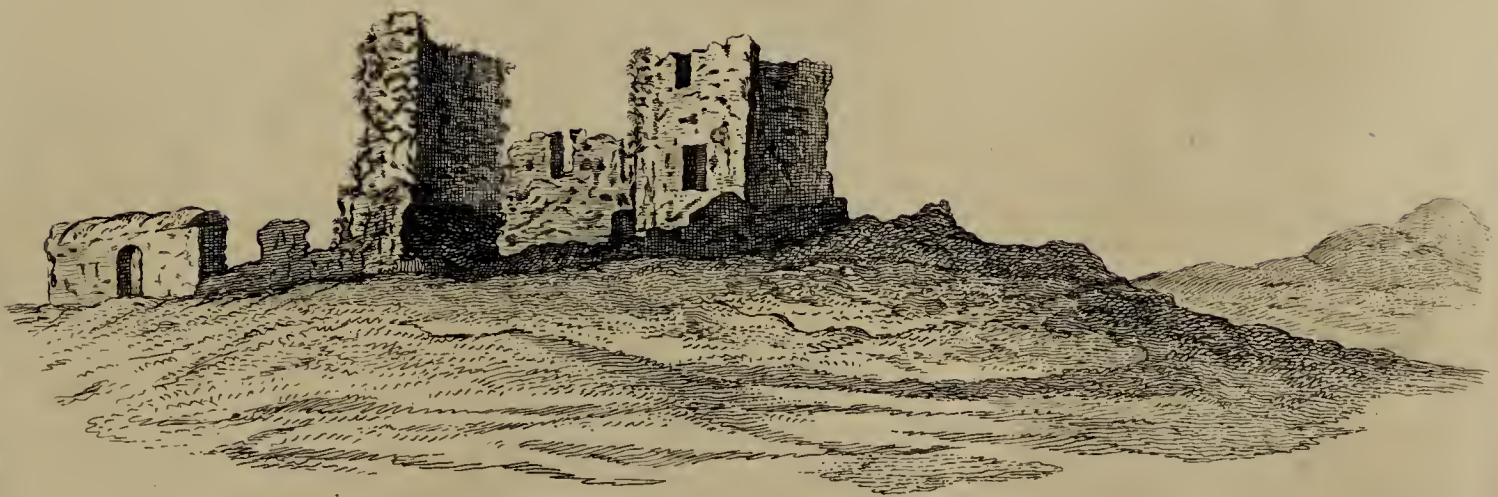
Tho^s. Wright.



P. IX.

B. II.





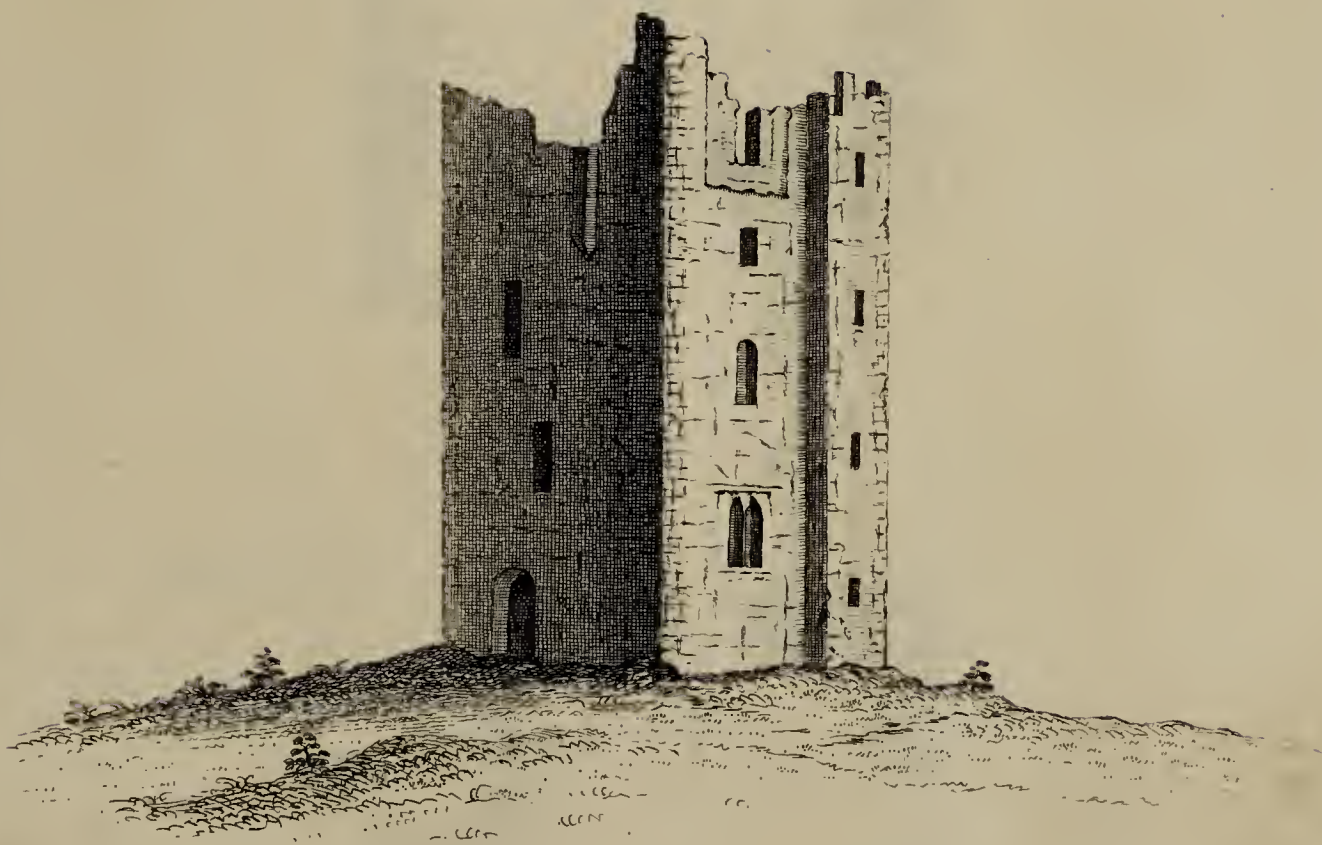


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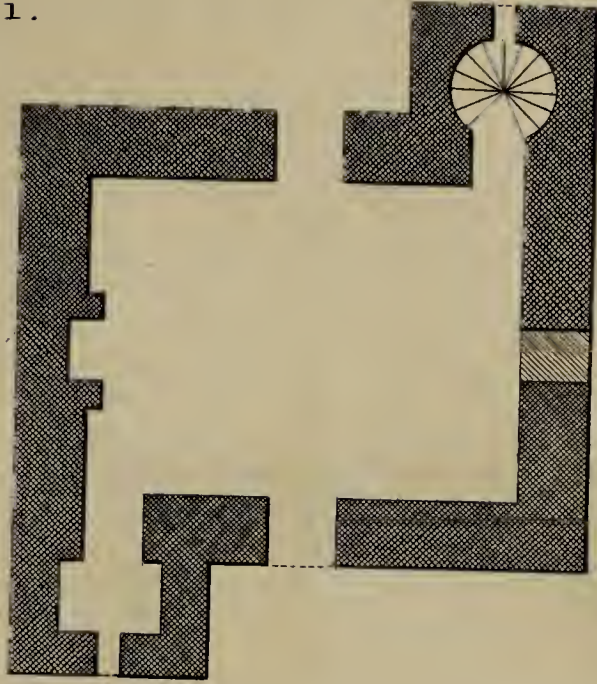
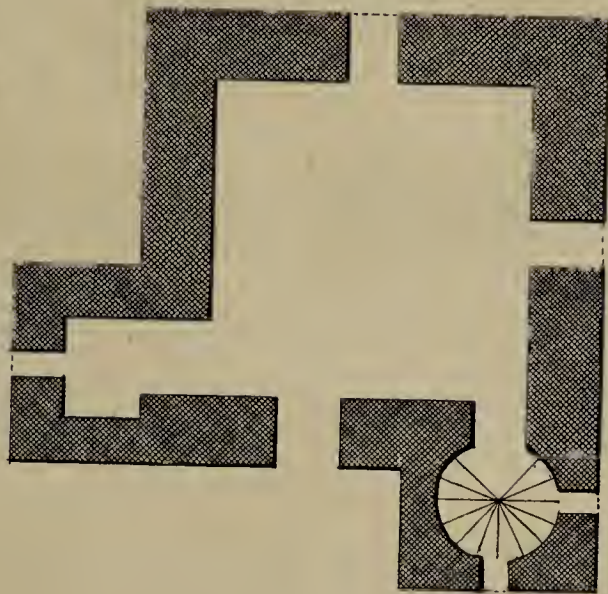
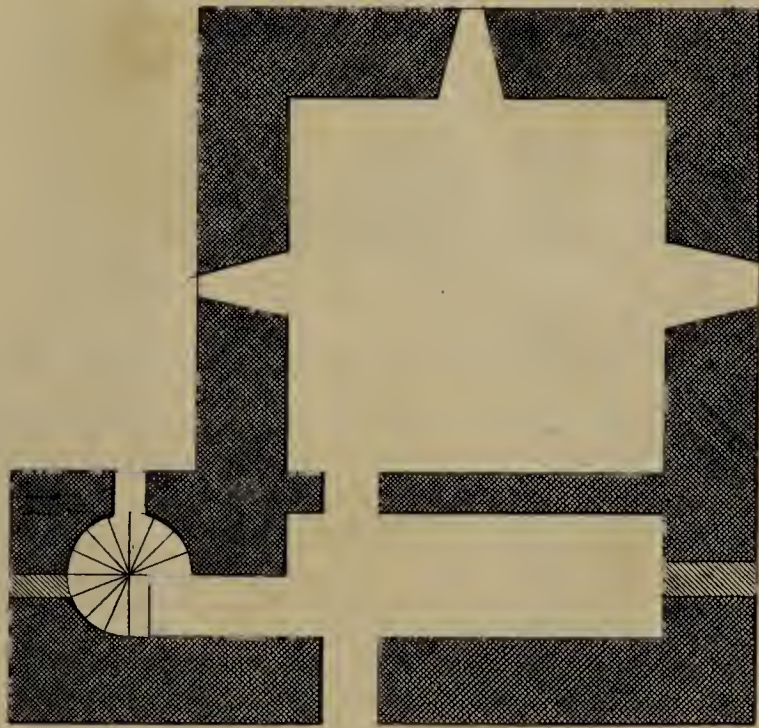


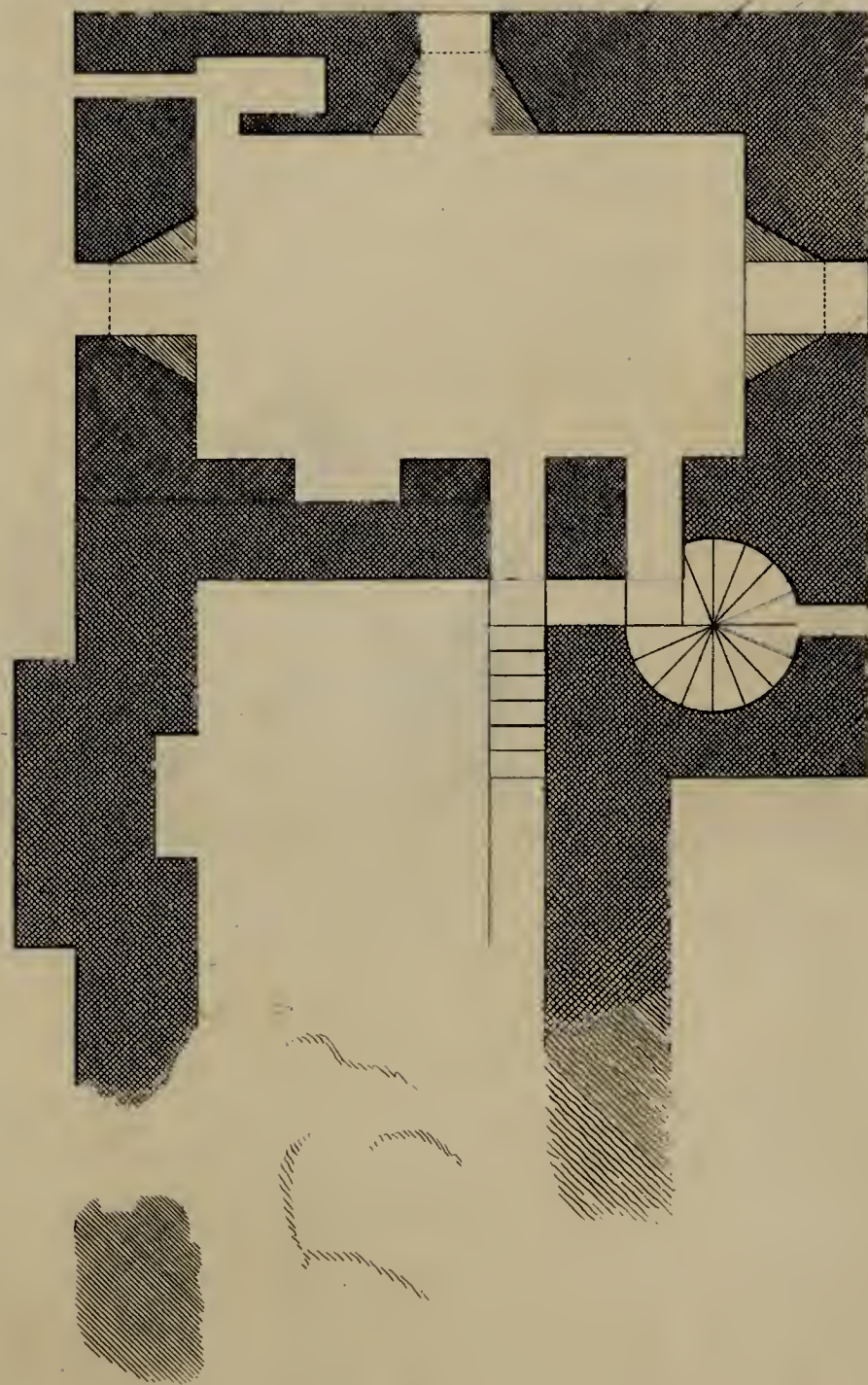
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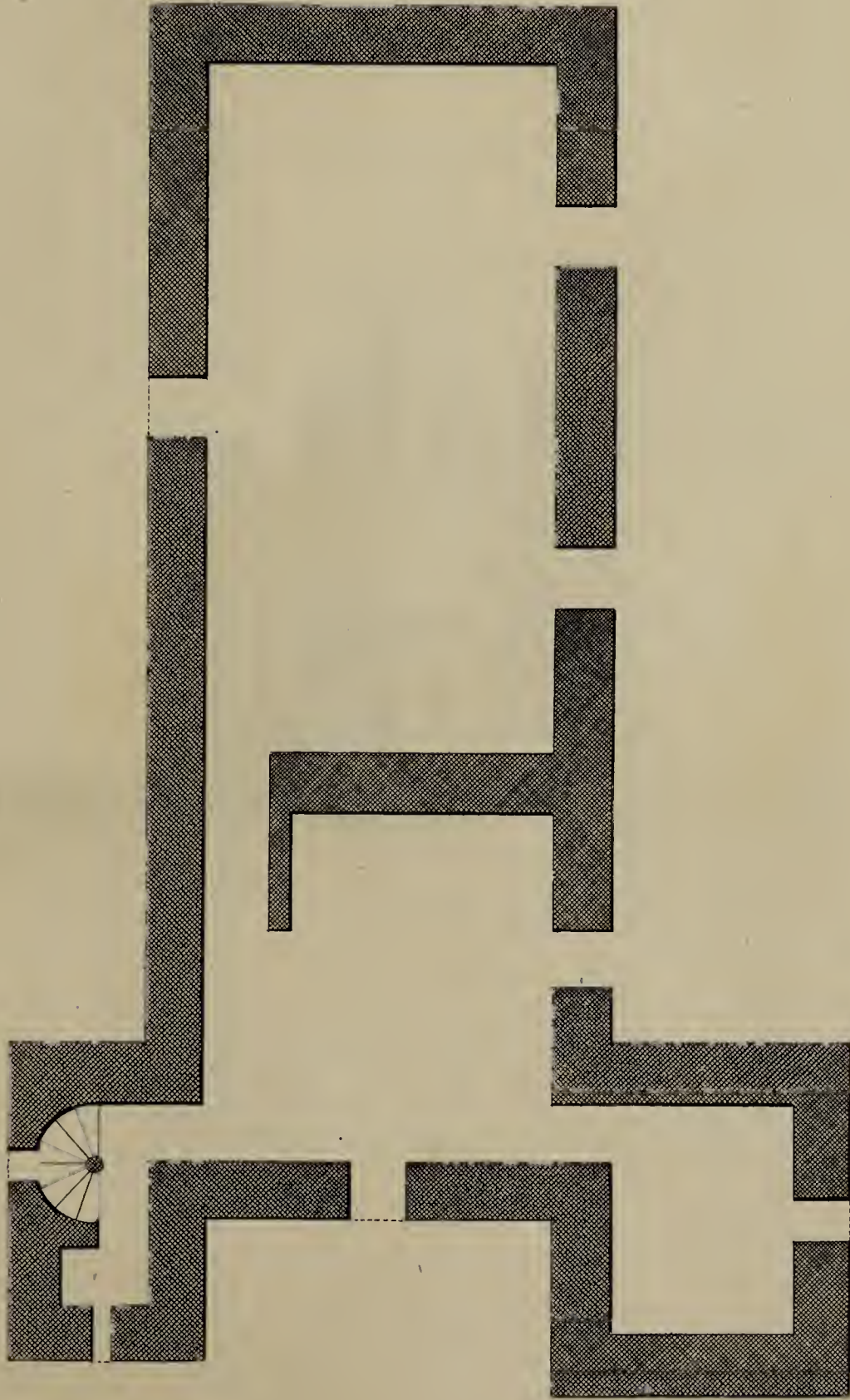
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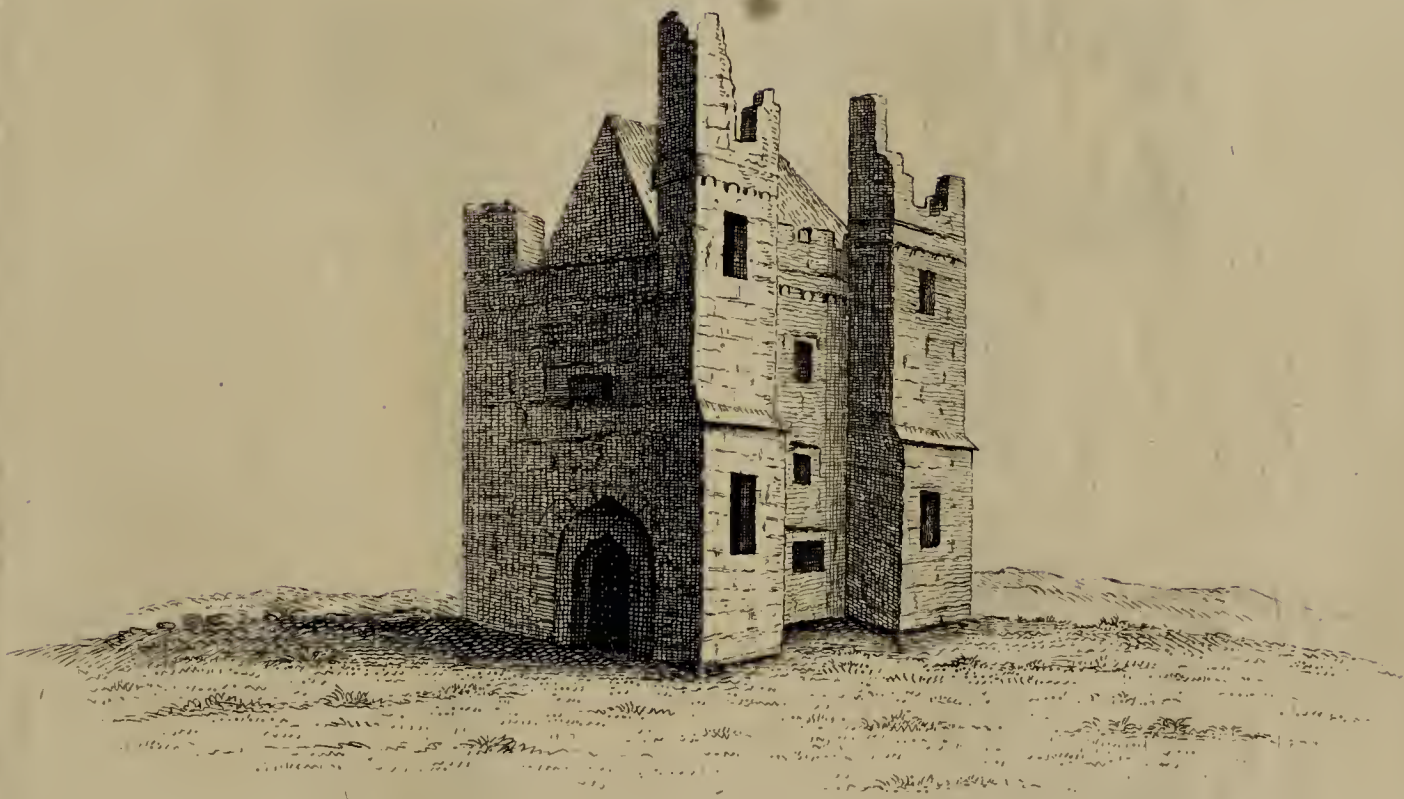
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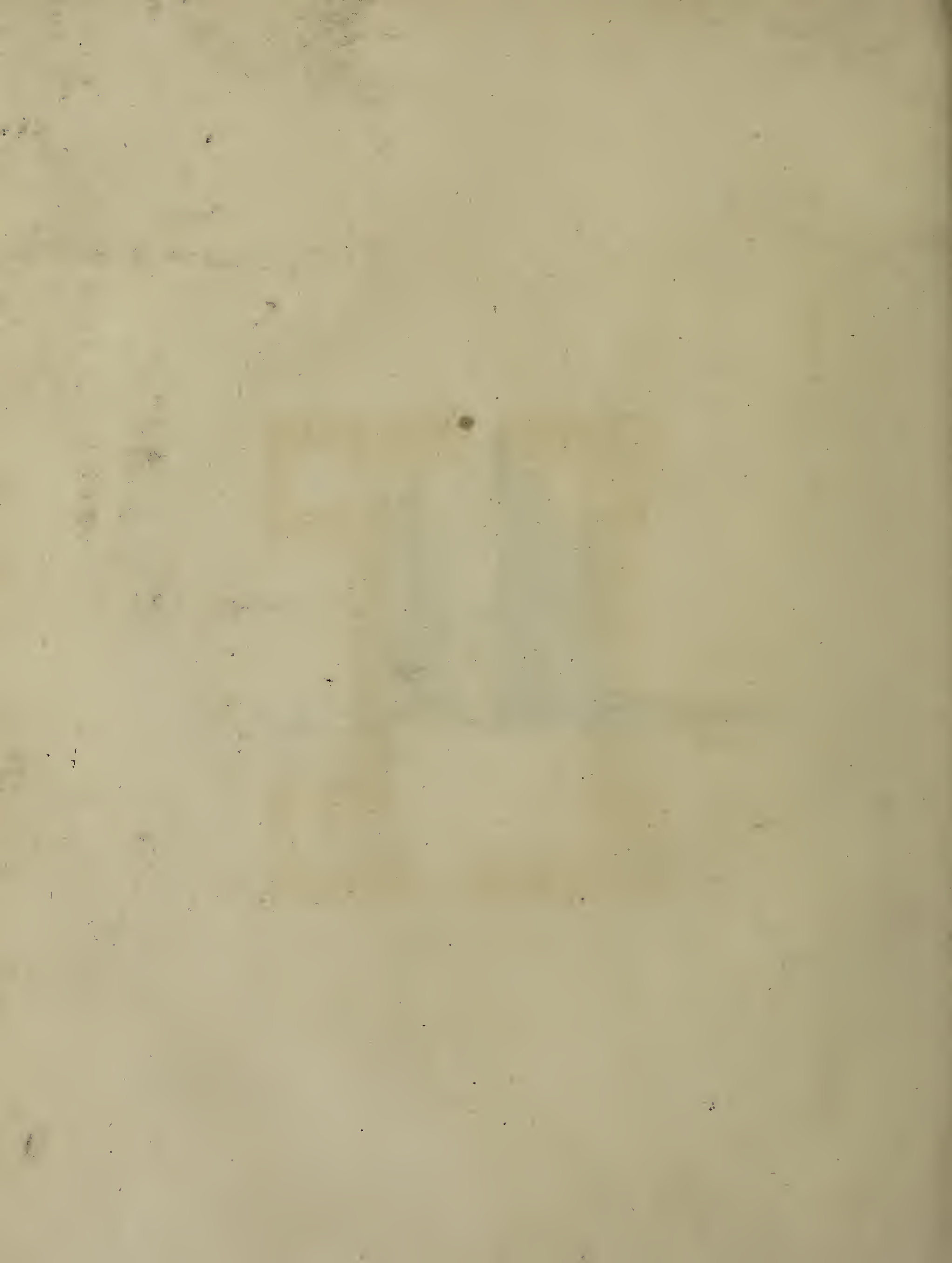


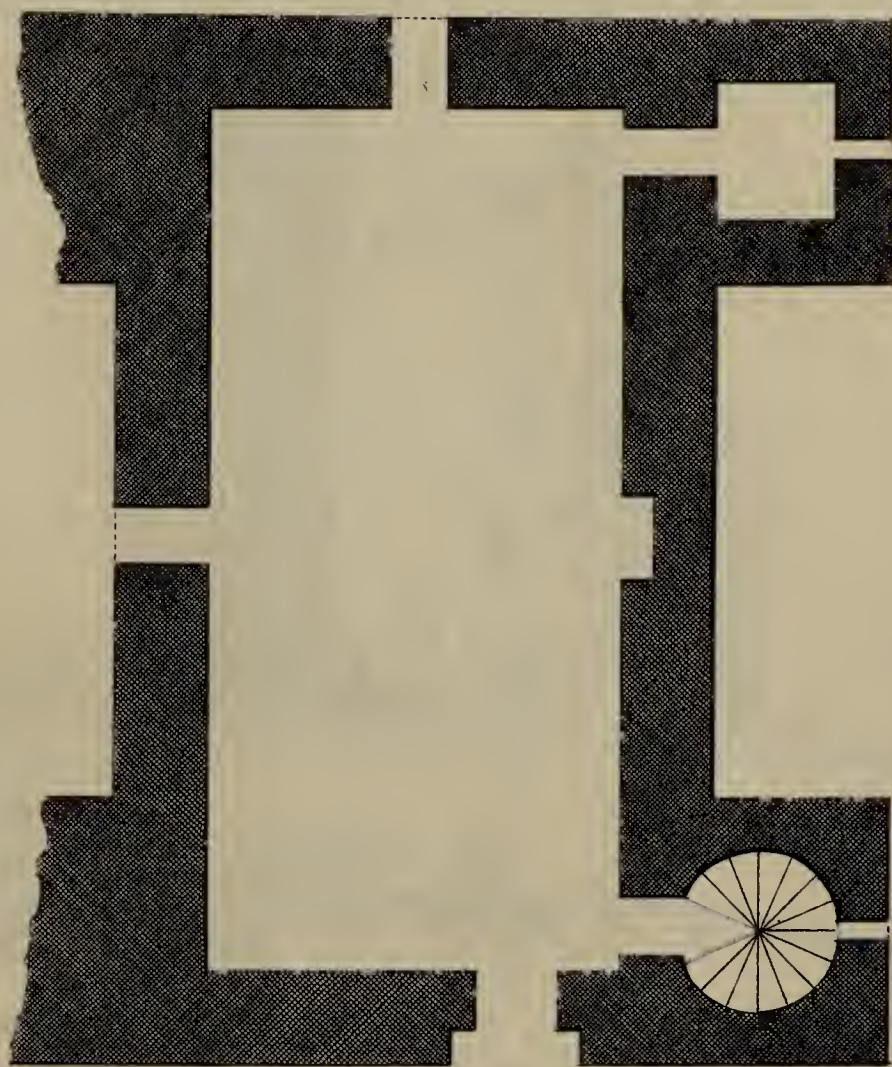




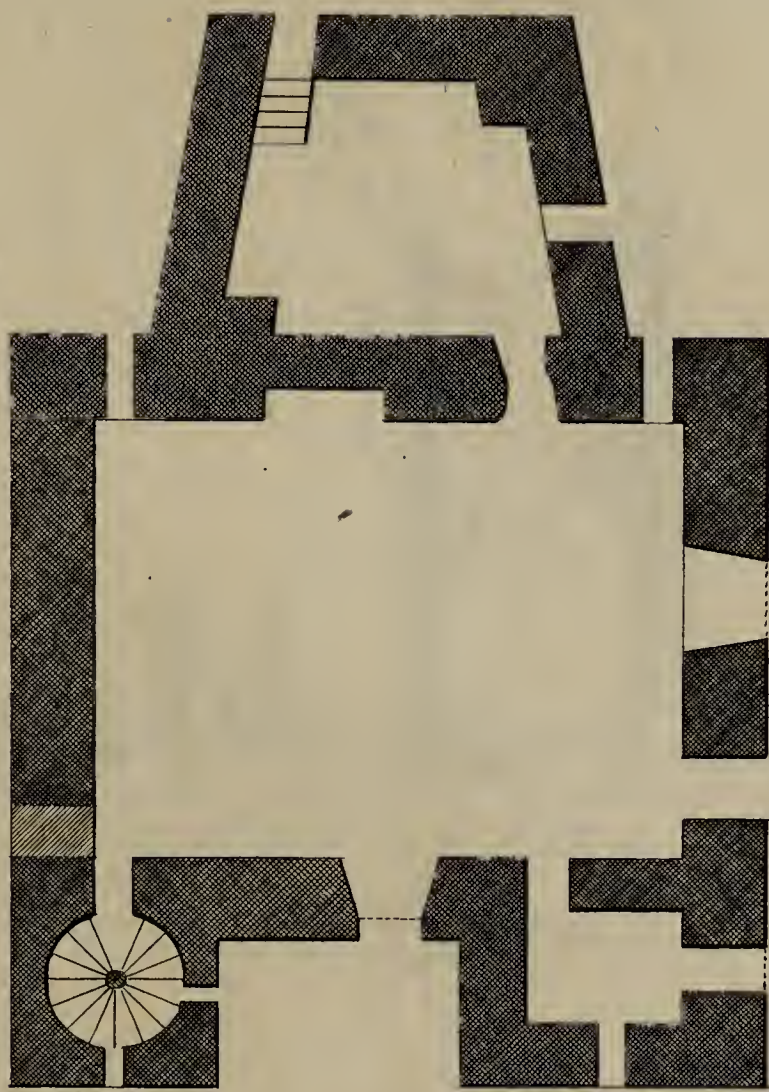


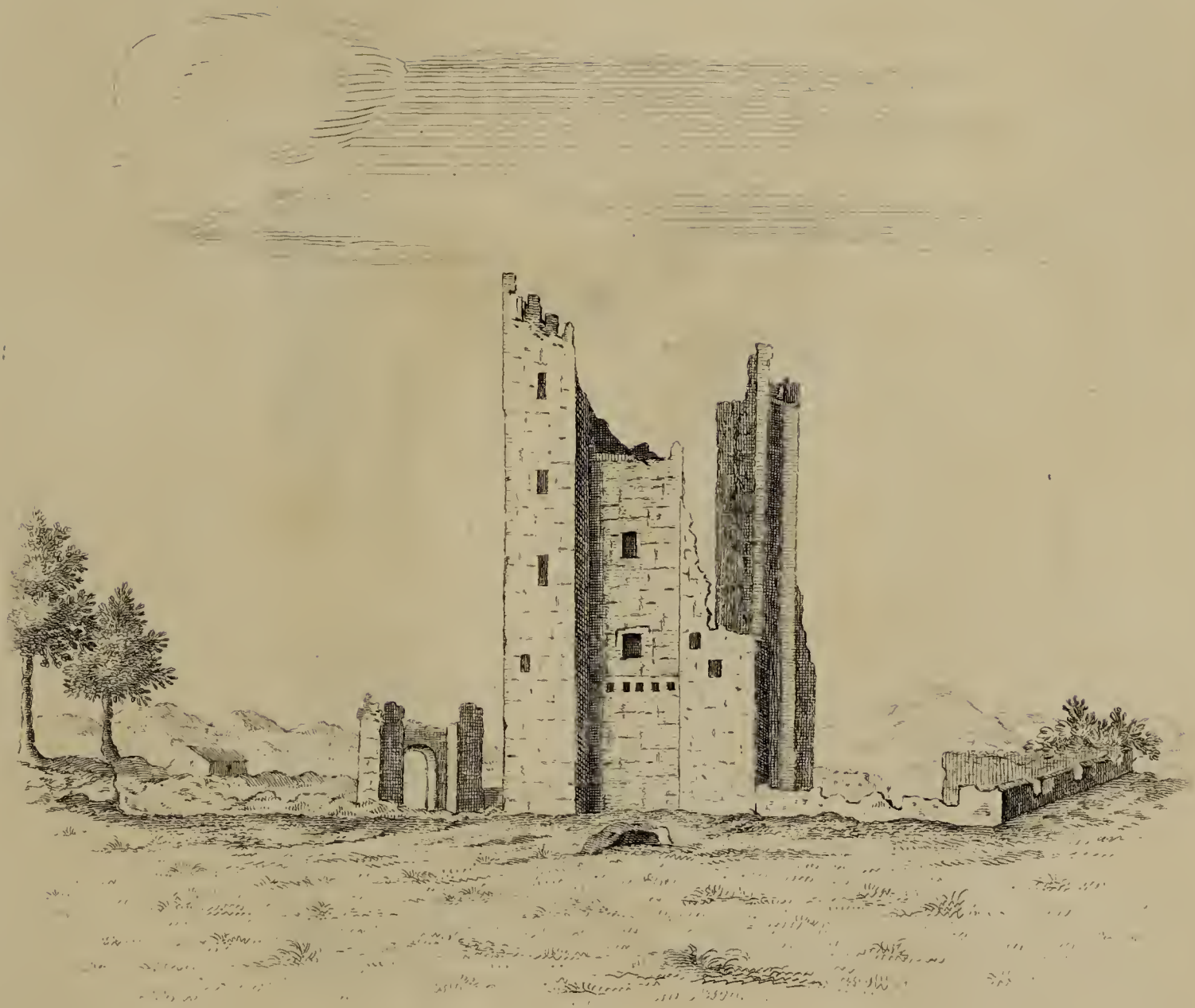


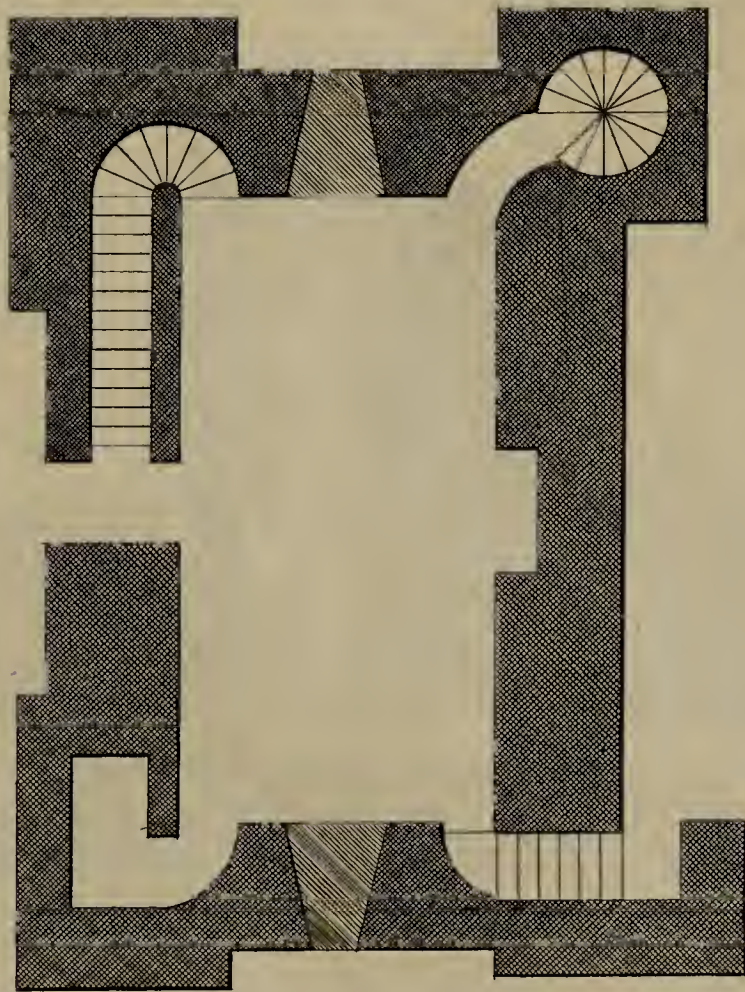


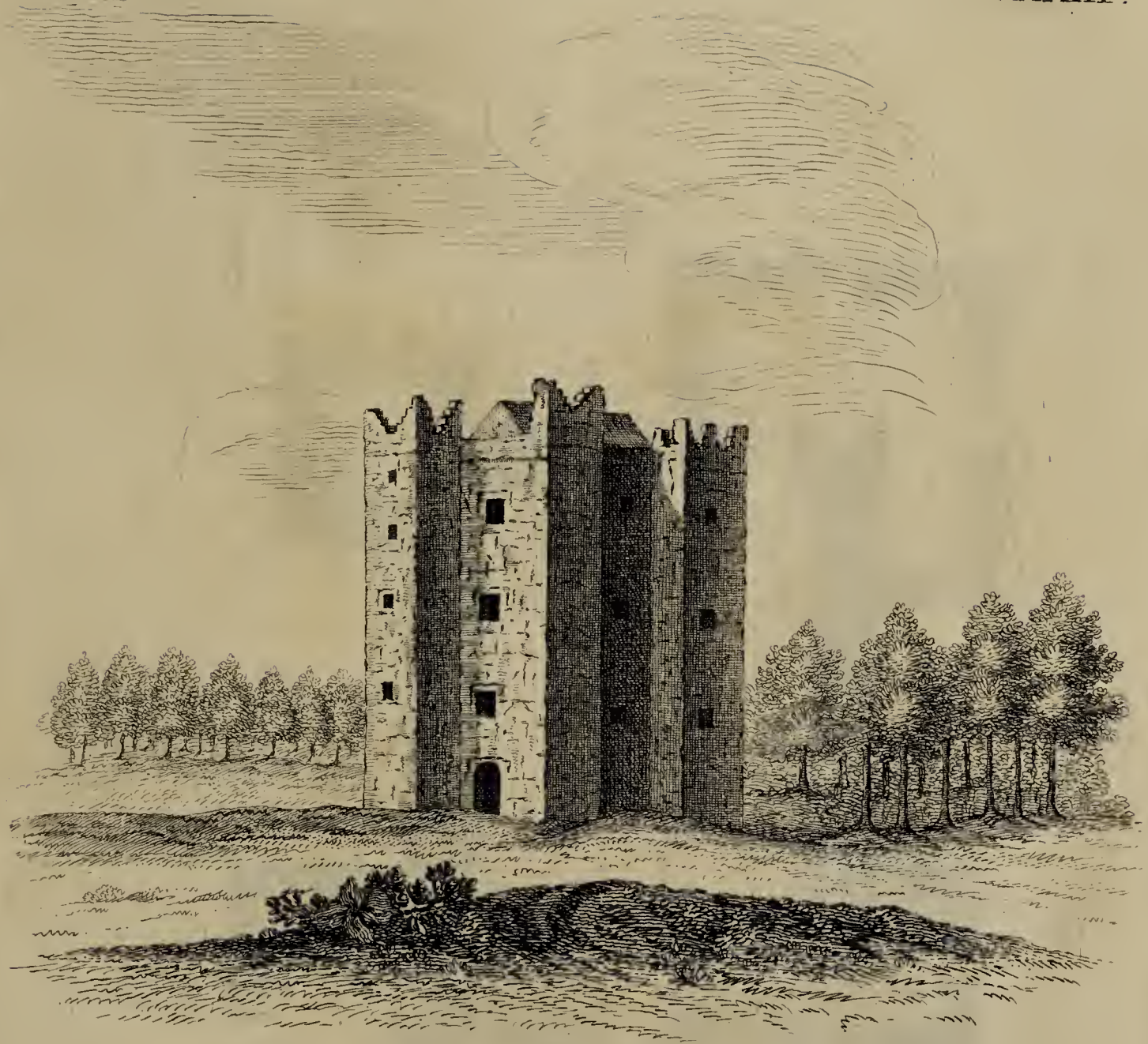


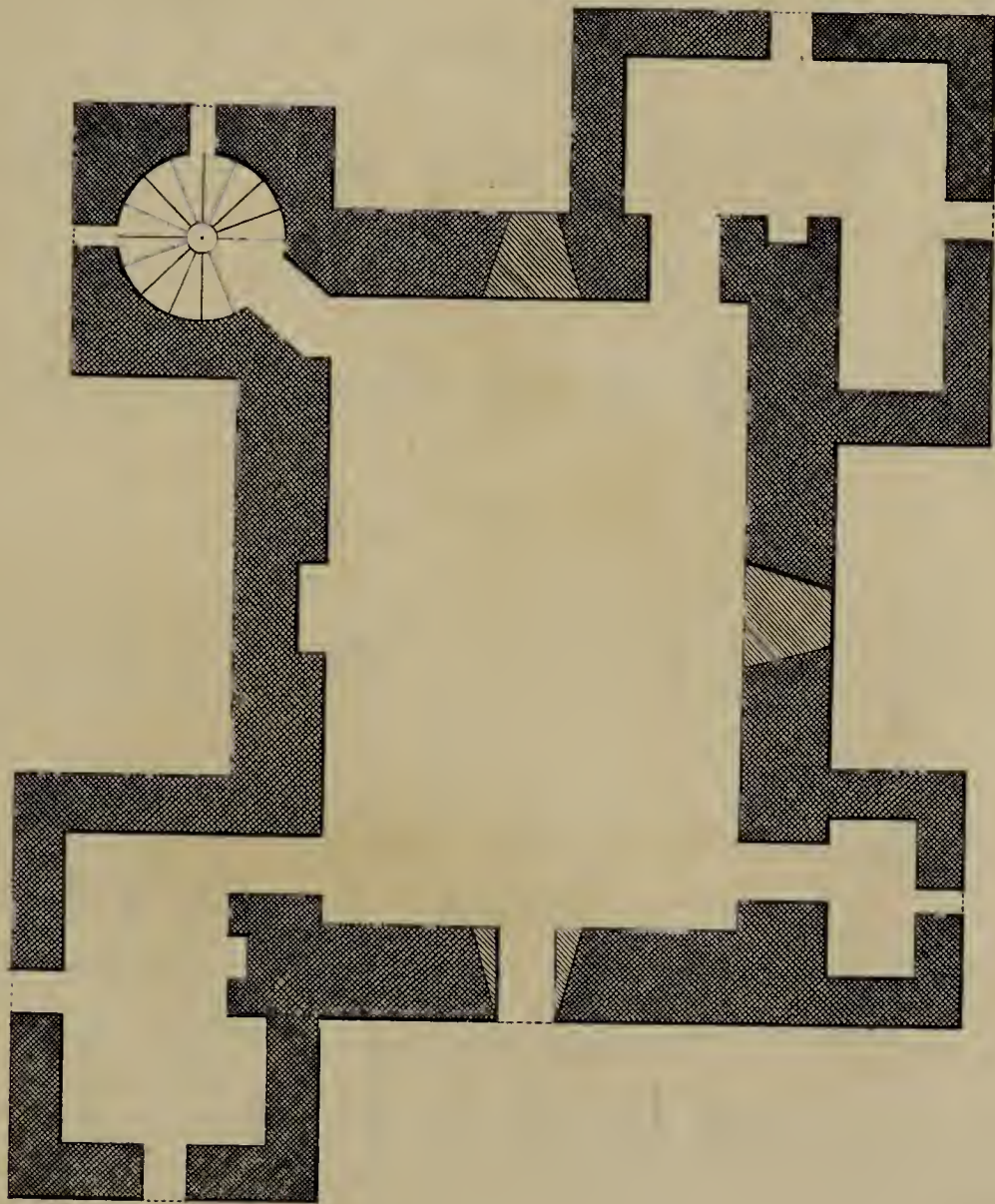












LOUTHIANA:
BOOK III.

A

COLLECTION

OF THE

Most Remarkable REMAINS of the WORKS

OF THE

DANES and DRUIDS

IN THE

COUNTY of LOUTH.

In TWENTY-TWO PLATES.

As taken upon the Spot by

T. WRIGHT.

LONDON:

Printed for the Author, and sold by R. DODSLEY, in *Pall-mall*, and M. SENEX,
opposite to St. *Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street.*

MDCCLXVIII.

LOUTHIAN
BOOK III.

COLLECTION

Moffat's Remains Remains of the Wars

BY W. A. R. and A. R. D. D. S.

COUNTY OF LOUTH

Printed by J. W. G. H. N.

T. W. R. I. G. H. N.

Printed and Published by J. W. G. H. N. at the Press of the University of Louth, Louth, 1845.

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P L A T E X V I I I.

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P L A T E X X I I.

The great Horns at Sir John Bellew's Seat at Barmeath.





Bay of Carlingford

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

Principal ANTIQUITIES and CURIOSITIES contained in the Third Book.



BEFORE I can proceed in a regular Manner to explain the ten following Plates, which are supposed chiefly to relate to the *Druids*, it will be necessary to say something concerning that Set of Men; these being the evident Marks of those heathen Priests having once resided in this Place.

WE are told that this Sect of Philosophers affected to live in Woods, and chose the most retired Places, such as Groves of Oak, and shady Hills, &c. for their religious Worship. Mr. Rowland, in his *Mona Antiqua Restaurata*, has given us a very learned and elaborate Account of them, not only from their first Choice of, and supposed Settlement in the Isle of *Anglesey*, but also a full Relation of their Religion, Laws, and Discipline to the Time of their Expulsion by the *Romans*, when 'tis said they were finally banish'd *Britain*, and sought for Shelter and a more safe Reception amongst their foreign Friends and Brethren, some of whom retiring to the *Isle of Man*, others to *Scotland*, and the rest to *Ireland*, where the Foot-steps of this same Society of People are yet very plain to be seen.

Lucan, who lived at the very Time that the Doctrine of these barbarous Priests was supposed to have been in its highest Reputation, has given us several fine Descriptions both of their Principles and Habitations. The following Passage in his *Pharsalia* is a sufficient Proof how much they were in the good Opinion of that observing Poet.

The Druids now, while Arms are heard no more,
 Old Mysteries and barb'rous Rights restore :
 A Tribe who singular Religion love,
 And haunt the lonely Coverts of the Grove.
 To these, and these of all Mankind alone,
 The Gods are sure reveal'd, or sure unknown.
 If dying Mortals Dooms they sing aright,
 No Ghosts descend to dwell in dreadful Night ;
 No parting Souls to grisly Pluto go,
 Nor seek the dreary silent Shades below :
 But forth they fly immortal in their kind,
 And other Bodies in new Worlds they find.

Row.

Mr. Rowland farther relates, that in those Days, *i. e.* at the time they are supposed to have been totally dispersed by *Agricola*, which was about the Year of Christ 78, as testified by *Tacitus*.

“ IN *Ireland*, there Religion was in mighty Vogue amongst the People, and their three mentioned Orders were called *Druids*, *Sanachies*, and *Bards*; they were so full there in the Days of *St. Patrick*, that it is said by their Historians, that he burnt three Hundred of their Books. * *Mr. Roderick Flaberty* (as I find him cited by the same Author) says, the *Druids* made one of the three Orders of the Kingdom, and were signalized with a Mark of Honour on their Garments, next that of Kings and Princes. † Nay further, for more Certainty in this Matter, that they had been very numerous and common in that Kingdom, the Name of *Druid* is there to this Day applied to a cunning Fellow or Wizard, whom in the *Irish* Tongue, they call *Druid* or *Druid*; and it is as certain that *O Donnell* in his Translation of the New Testament into *Irish*, calls the wise Men of the East (*Matth. ii. i. Draoithe, i. e. Druids*, by which it appears that the *Druids* before the Christian Religion gave them another Remove, were established in, and of great Authority in *Ireland*.”)

WE are farther informed that these *Druids* differing from the Custom of the *English* *Druids*, made use of Letters, and that a College was erected in *Ireland* 927 Years before Christ, called *Mur Ollavan*, or the City of the Learned.

WHAT Part of *Ireland* this was in I am yet to learn, but if we may guess from like Situation in the Isle of *Anglesey*, where the most knowing of their *Druids* resided we may suppose it was not far from *Dundalk*. Since there is here a *Carrick Brauda* like that of the Astronomers in *Anglesey*, which was also called *Carig Bradyn*, and

* *Ogygia*, p. 58.† *Matthew Kennedy*, p. 19.

to answer their *Cerrig Edris*, here is a *Carrick Edmond*; both noted Eminences, and fit for contemplative Purposes.

THAT Groves of Oak and the shady Tops of Hills were the chief Places of Resort; and Idolatry as well as of religious Worship, before regular Temples were built of ornamented Stone, &c. *Joshua xxiv. 26. Ezek. vi. 13. Hosea iv. 13.* are all established Evidences of good Authority.

IN the first Place we find this. *And Joshua took a great Stone, and set it up there (in Shechem) under an Oak*, that was by the Sanctuary of the Lord.* In the Second we have this, *Then shall ye know that I am the Lord, when their slain Men shall be among their Idols round about their Altars, upon every high Hill, in all the Tops of the Mountains, and under every green Tree, and under every thick Oak, the Place where they did offer sweet Savour to all their Idols.* And in the last Place we read as follows, *They sacrifice upon the Tops of the Mountains, and burn Incense upon the Hills, under Oaks, and Poplars, and Elms, because the Shadow thereof is good.*

THAT it was customary also at least among the latter idolatrous *Druids*, not only to live, but likewise to be bury'd in the Recesses of these Groves, we may learn from several Authors who have wrote upon this Subject; a Proof of which will evidently appear in the Explanation of the following Plans, and that this race of Men call'd *Irish Druids*; whose Works we trace over all this Part, *Ulster*, and also in *Linster*, undoubtedly descended, or had their Doctrine from some of the patriarchal Tribes.



P L A T E I.

THIS Plate is a Representation of Part of the pleasant Peninsula of *Ballrichan*, in which are still remaining the evident Marks of a *Druid's Grove* or Dwelling, which to form a more perfect Idea of, according to the Accounts given us of the Seats and Habitations of those knowing Men, we are to imagine was once surrounded with fine old Oaks, forming within an awful solemn Shade †. The large Stone Pillars at F seem to mark the Entrance or Approach to it, and G which is nearly the Centre of the Solun, above the Banks of the two bordering Rivers, we

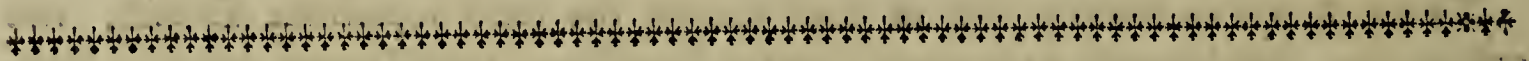
* At *Dodona* in *Epirus*, *Jupiter* was said to give Oracles out of an Oak.

† *Lucan's* Description of one of these sacred Groves gives us a fine Idea of their awful Solitude.

*Not far away for Ages past had stood
An old inviolated sacred Wood;
Whose gloomy Boughs, thick interwoven, made
A chilly, cheerless, everlasting Shade:
There, nor the rustick Gods, nor Satyrs sport,
Nor Fauns and Sylvans with the Nymphs resort:
But barb'rous Priests some dreadful Pow'r adore
And lustrate ev'ry Tree with human Gore.*

*If Mysteries in Times of old receiv'd,
And pious Ancientry be yet believ'd,
There, nor the feather'd Songster builds her Nest,
Nor lonely Dens, conceal the savage Beast;
There, no tempestuous Winds presume to fly,
Ew'n Light'nings glance aloof, and shoot obliquely by.*

may conjecture was the principal Abode or Residence of the chief *Druid*. At A there is a Circle form'd of five large Stones upon the Top of a little Hill, which probably may have been a Place of Worship. C seems to have been a Carned (of which I shall say more hereafter) and B I take to be a Burying-place, or sort of Family-sepulchre, in which, from what I have discovered in such like Places, I suspect there are several Urns, Bones, &c. E, H, and I are probably monumental Pillars, such as we read were erected for *Rachel*, *Gen.* xxxv. 20. and by *Absalom* for himself, *2 Sam.* xviii. 18. E and F are the Stones represented at E and F in the Plan, in a larger proportion, and K is the Castle of *Ballrichan*. *Ball* signifying, in *Irish*, a Place or Dwelling. If *Rick* or *Rich*, as the old *British Orch* or *Oruch*, meaning the same Thing, is supposed to come from the *Hebrew Rachau**, or Eminence, be allow'd a Corruption of this Word. This choice Spot of Ground may possibly have been the supreme Seat of the *Drew* or *Arch-druid*.



P L A T E II.

THIS represents the rude Remains of another sacred Grove or Seat of the *Druids* upon the same Estate belonging to Lord *Limerick*, distant about a Mile from the former, upon the Top of a more elevated Piece of Ground, called *Carrick Edmon*, and near to a neighbouring River, as shewn in the Plan called *Carrickastickin*, from a Mountain of the same Name from whence it descends. Here A is the most likely to have been the Temple or Place of Devotion, B † and also C are manifest Carneds; D seems to be the Foundation of a circular dwelling; E, F, and G are Burying-places, and H and I, most probably monumental || Pillars, such as those at E and H, &c. in the former Plan.

THE Center of the Circles, at E and F, I procured to be open'd, and in both of them were found several decay'd human Bones; in F particular the broken Parts of two or three different Urns were taken up made of sort of baked Clay, one of which was filled with burnt Bones and Pieces of Charcole, but the rest were almost

* *Mr. Roland's Mona Antiqua Restau.* † *Joshua* viii, 28.

|| *Lucan* plainly alludes to rude Pillars like these in the following Lines, but seem to intimate as much as if they were oddly pictured, after the manner of Pagods.

*Old Images of Forms mis-shapen stand,
Rude and unknowing of the Artist's Hand;
With hoary Filth begrim'd, each ghastly Head
Strikes the astonish'd Gazer's Soul with Dread.
No Gods, who long in common Shapes appear'd,
Were e'er with such religious Awe rever'd:
But zealous Crowds in Ignorance adore,
And still the less they know, they fear the more.*

quite

quite decay'd and turn'd to a black grey Substance. The Cells of three of those, Urns were very visible, placed in a triangular Form, distant about 18 Inches, and near two Foot below the Surface of the Earth, all separately enclosed with flat Stones set edge-ways about a Base one, and covered with one at Top. X represents a part of the one which appear'd to be whole, yet afterwards fell to pieces, before it could be removed: Geometrically compleating the Segment, I found it to be about six Inches Diameter at the Top, but what the Bottom of it was, I could not get enough of it to determine.

THIS then was certainly a Burying-Place, as also was the other Circle adjoining to it, but whether for Children or adult Persons I shall not take upon me to affirm.

G and A appearing to have been opened, I made very little Search into them, but I can't help being of Opinion, that much more may be discovered from a deeper Enquiry both here and at the Temple of *Ballrichan*.

Two such Circles of Stones, as here described, not long since was by Accident laid open upon Mr. *Knox's* Estate near *Dungannon*, in the County of *Tyrone*, and three such Urns were discovered set round with Stones in the same Manner as these were, but the Urns were broke by the Person who was digging for the Stones to build a House with*.



P L A T E III.

THIS Plate represents the ruinous Remains of a Temple or Theatre on the Planes of *Ballynabatne*, near *Dundalk*; 'tis enclosed on one Side with a Rampart and Ditch, and seems to have been a very great Work, of the same Kind with that at *Stone Henge* in *England*, being open to the East, and composed of like Circles of Stones within. But it appears to be much older, many of the Stones being broke, and others remov'd: The Number of large ones in the outward Circle, I judge to have been originally ten, answering to the Number of Generations from *Adam* to *Noah*. And here probably was the first Settlement of a part of the Western *Heneti*, for as *Ball*, in the *Irish* Tongue, signifies *Dwelling*, there is no great Alteration in the Sound betwixt *Ballynabatne* and *Ballynbeneti*, but this is a Point rather to be hinted at than insisted upon, and so I shall leave it to abler Judges, and proceed to Conjectures better grounded concerning the Intent and Use of it.

THE Patriarchs we are assured not only had their Forums, or Places of Judicature, but also their Fanums, or Places of religious Worship. For we read, that all

* Natural History of Ireland, p. 184.

Israel were frequently called to convene at *Mispah*, and also at *Bethel* and *Gilgal*, where *Samuel* went also from Year to Year, and judged *Israel*, *Sam. vii. 16.* * *Julius Cæsar* also affirms the like Practice amongst the *Druids* of *Gallia*; where, he says, they met together in a certain consecrated Place every Year, and judged all the People.

† *Epiphanius* who was born and lived in *Jewry*, gives us quite a parallel Description of one of these *Cirques*, in his Tract against the *Messilian* Hereticks, where he says, We have at *Sicbem* an antient *Proseucha* in the open Air, rais'd up like a *Cirque* or *Theatre* by the *Samaritans*, in Imitation of the *Jews*; such also was the *Brien Guyn*, or supreme Consistory-Court in the *Isle of Anglesey*, described by *Mr. Rowland*.

P L A T E IV.

Of the Kern, or Carn upon Carrick Braud ||.

THE *Kerns* or *Carnedde*, from the *Hebrew*, *Keren Nedh*, a Copped Heap, as *Mr. Rowland* derives it, are very common upon the Tops almost of every Mountain; and notwithstanding the Practice of the *Druids*, many of them here are attributed to old *Irish* Catholicks, who, upon particular Days of the Year, carry Stones by way of Penance to the Top of some very high Hill. On the Top of *Shave Donate*, one of the highest Mountains of *Moarn*, are two of these amazingly large; in one of them there are Apartments contrived for the Priests to say Mass in. Another of these vast Heaps, 300 Feet in Circumference, is to be seen upon the Top of *Slavgullion*; this has a Cave or Cell in the Middle of it, like those dedicated to the *Danish* Gods, and most probably the Temple of *Thor*.

Jacob and *Laban's* Contract, *Gen. xxxi. 46, 51, 52, 53.* is an instance of such Heaps made use of upon other Occasions, which makes it very difficult and hardly possible now to determine from what Rights or Customs their first Formation came. The *Carnedde*, represented in this Plate, is one of the Broadest I have ever seen, taking up in Circumference at least 360 Feet; in the Middle of it there is a regular Order of flat Stones in the Form of a Stone Coffin or *Kistvaen*, such as described near *Abury* in *England*, about five Feet long, and two and an half broad, which gives this the Air of a Funeral Pile or Monument of the Dead.

* *Li certo anni tempore confidunt in loco consecrato; huc omnes undique qui controversias habent, conveniunt; eorumque judiciis decretisque parent.*

† *Est & sicimis quæ hodie Neapolis dicitur, Proseuchæ locus, extra urbem, Theatro similis, secundo ab urbe lapide positus, quem ita aperto cælo, & aræ subdiati extruxerunt Samaritæ Judæorum in omnibus imitatores.*

|| See the View A, and Ichnography B.

MANY such *Kistvaens*, as Dr. *Stukely* calls them, as also vast Stone * Pillars are very frequently found in this Part of *Ireland*, such as we read of in Scripture, and which after became the Objects of idolatrous Worship amongst the antient *Jews*, 2 *Kings* xvii. 10.

† *Matzebah*, Mr. *Rowland* will have a Pillar unhewn, and not an Image. See his *Mona Antiqua*, &c. Of this sort several are to be seen standing upon the Plains near *Dundalk*, some of which so high as a tall Man on Horseback can hardly reach the Top of. But what excites our Wonder most is, a Stone of enormous Size incumbent upon three others yet standing near *Ballymascandlan*, about two Miles from *Dundalk*.



P L A T E V.

THIS massy Stone measuring 12 Feet one way and 6 another, which must from the specifick Gravity of like Solids, weigh betwixt 30 and 40 Ton-weight; by the Inhabitants of the Country is called *the Giant's Load*, and the Native *Irish* tell a strange Story about it, relating how the whole was brought all at once from the neighbouring Mountains, by a Giant called *Parrab boug M'shagjean*, and who they say was buried near this Place. The Grave or Cell of Stone-work they shew for it is about 20 Feet long and 5 Broad, and several Bones of a monstrous Size they affirm to have been dug up here. But to quit this idle and fabulous Story, and to draw nearer to the real Truth, I must inform my Reader, that there are many such to be found still standing in this Country, and also in many Parts of *England*, where *PARRAH BOUG M'SHAGJEAN* never came, unless by the miraculous Causeway of his Brethren in the North; one more I saw myself upon the Estate of Lord *Blundal* near the Castle of *Dundrum*, and another I am informed is to be seen in the Mountains of *Moarn*. Several such are said to be in the Isle of *Anglesey*, called there *Cromlechs*, or vulgarly *Arthur's Quoits*.

Mr. *Rowland* derives the Name *Cromlech* from the *Hebrew*, *Cærem-lech*, or *Cærem-luach*, a devoted Stone, which he would also have to signify an Altar, and will by no Means allow them to be any Thing else; but I apprehend from what follows it will manifestly appear that they were all erected over Graves, and are no

* We read of heap'd Altars of Stone, and Pillars of Covenant or *Termini* in many Parts of Scripture, particularly in the following Places, *viz.* *Josua* viii. 31. *Deut.* xvii. 7. *Hosea* xii. 11. to which, as being common with every Body, I refer my Reader, without any farther Citation, where perhaps he may form a better Judgment of the Things here mentioned.

† *Sacra Jovi quercus*

other than Tomb-stones, or sepulchral Monuments raised to the Memory of the most eminent Men of those Times. I could never bring myself to believe from their vast Heights and Unevenness at Top, that they could be designed purposely for Altars, and especially as they seemed to be placed upon so precarious a Foundation. Having but three Supports, if any one of them should be disturbed the incumbent Load must inevitably fall, and crush every Thing in its Way, which a fourth would have prevented from any such Accident, and have rendered the whole together much more permanent and lasting.

BUT when looked upon as a burying Place, the Reason of so slight a Prop and Bearings are obvious, since it can't fail of deterring People from digging near it, and by this Means preserve the Bones and Ashes of the Dead undisturbed. Seeking for an Opportunity to satisfy my Curiosity in this Point, which here would have been too dangerous an Experiment, I chanced one Day to meet with a fallen one upon Lord *Limerick's* Ground, about two Miles from this, by the Side of a River, exactly between the two *Druid's* Groves before describ'd. Two of the Supports were quite broke down with the Fall of the incumbent Load; the other was left standing. This his Lordship immediately order'd to be carefully dug into, and in the Middle about two feet deep, covered and inclos'd within broad flat Stones, great Part of the Skeleton of a human Figure was found all crouded together within a Bed of black greasy Earth, as if originally inclos'd within an Urn, now quite decay'd and rotten. Mixed with the Bones were found some Pieces of Clay about the Thickness of my little Finger, quite solid and round as if Part of a Rod broke to Pieces, which if really so, probably may have been an Insignia of the high Office of the Person here interred. The Original perhaps of a like Ceremony practis'd upon the same Occasion now with us.

A VERY few more of these Discoveries would make this clear, and prove beyond a Doubt that these *Cromleches* are no other than Monuments of the Dead. Since my Return from *Ireland*, I received this farther Account from a Friend upon the Place: "Yesterday I went with Lord and Lady *L.—k* to the great *Cromleche* at *Bullrichan* where you found the human Bones, the Country People had sunk above a Yard deeper in quest, I believe of Treasure, and we found them still at Work, they had got under and were trying to pull up the large square Stone, which stood on one Edge; they came to another flat Stone, under which they found many large Bones; but we do not yet know whether they be Human, they raised also many regular Stones of a considerable Length, and the whole Place seems to have been built up regularly as well to strengthen the three great Props as to contain a proper Repository for Bones, or whatever was to be laid there."

PLATE VI. and VII.

Plan and View of Killing-Hill.

KILLING-Hill is called, by the common *Irish*, an Hermitage, and they have many strange Traditions relating to it, but from the Judgment I have been able to form of it, as it now remains it has all the Marks of a *Danish* Temple ; the Circle of Stone rais'd at A and B inclines me to believe it may have too been occupied by the *Druids*, since such seem to have been common to both. But the Name rather speaks for the former as signifying Slaughter, which the latter rarely practis'd but with Criminals, and those they burnt upon their Carneds. The Altar or Cell for Sacrifice upon the Summit of this Hill at C, from what remains of it appears to have been surrounded by a Circle of pyramidical Stones, and must have been very magnificent, as they Approach to it from the South also vastly awful, especially when we consider the whole surrounded by a fine lofty Wood of Oaks. The Hill itself rather rises from a low Situation, which makes it appear best at a proper Distance, and seems as quite suited for a noble Point of View over all the Plains of *Dundalk*.

THE rude Carvings upon the pyramidical Stones, which form the Cell are such as I observed in the Cave at *Grange* upon the Stones of that Cell which is supposed to have belonged to *Oden*, which makes me imagine that this Hill might some Time have been devoted to that Idol of the *Danes*, but as the *Druids* made use of Circles of Stone as well as the *Danes*, it is not easy now to determine what really belongs to the latter, and what justly to the former ; one thing, it will not be amiss in this place to recommend to the Consideration of more able Antiquarians, and which I could not help taking particular Notice of.

UPON the principal Stones that form the Altar * and Cell of this Temple, represented at A, as also upon those that form the Cell of *Oden* (as it is imagined). In the Cave at *Grange* I observed a rude Sort of Carving in the Form of a Spiral or Volute as represented at B, which may with equal Propriety signify (having suffered much by Time) either a *Ram's Horn*, a *Navel*, or a *Rotundant Snake*.

Quintus Curtius, in his History of *Alexander* the Great, tells us, that when that Conqueror visited the Temple of *Jupiter Ammon*, all that then represented the God, was but a rude Stone, with a Figure like this, which he calls a *Navel* described upon it. This then and no other was the only Symbol at that Time whereby the *Lybian* Priests signified the prime Deity of Nature, now since we find the same symbolical Characters upon the Altars, and in the Temples of the old *Irish*

* This Dr. *Stuckley* calls a *Kist Vaen*, and seems inclined to believe it a burying Place.

Pagan Priests, may we not with great Force of Reason suppose, that as their Symbols of the divine Being were alike, their Doctrine too might be the same, and both derived from one and the same idolatrous Fountain.

DR. *Stukely* says, in his Work of *Abury*, that his Friend Dr. *Pocock* observed when in *Ireland* a wonderful Conformity in many Instances betwixt the present *Irish* and the *Egyptians*, if this be true, and I know no Reason to doubt of it, surely we may give great Credit to the Story of *Hercules* * *Ogmius*, mentioned by Mr. *Toland* which the first of these learned Gentlemen has endeavoured to prove brought the *Druids* first into *Britain*; and that the antient *Irish* was also a *Phœnician* Colony, and Part of the same Race of Men.

IN the next Place if we consider how easy it is to mistake this Figure of a *Navel* for that of a *Cornutus* or Ram's Horn, and at the same Time how very little Difference there seems to be in the Sound between the *Hebrew* Word *Ammod* (a Stone Pillar) and that of the *Greek* *Ammon* (or sandy,) I can't see why we may not be lead to believe that the forementioned Temple of the *Libian* *Jupiter*, might not as well, and perhaps more properly have taken its Name originally from *Jupiter Ammod* as from *Jupiter Ammon*, since we are well assured from many † Writers that the first *Jupiter* was worshipped in that more simple Form ‖. The Corruption of the Sense of the Words are so very natural, I think we need only set aside the idle Fable of the Poet, upon this Subject, and it will appear probable at least that the latter God took Possession of the Place, with the first Change of Language there: And perhaps as a Compliment to *Alexander* his supposed Son, from the Affinity the Hieroglyphick had to a Snake, the boasted Paramour of *Olympia*.

How well this Sort of Adoration and Hill-worship was receiv'd thro' all the early Ages the constant Practice of all the chief Nations of the known World, is a sufficient Witness.

The *Jews* had their *Sion*;
The *Phrygians* and *Cretians*, their *Ida*;
The *Greeks* their *Parnassus*;
And the *Britain's*, their *Eyryri*.

* We read that *Lucian* saw a Picture of this *Hercules Ogmius* in *Gaul*, which was explained to him by a *Druid*, and is describ'd by him in *Hercule Gallico* as clad in a Lion's Skin, with a Club in his right Hand, a bent Bow in his Left, and a Quiver of Arrows hanging over his Shoulder; his Form was that of an old Man, bald before and wrinkled, in colour like a sun-burnt Sailor; a Multitude of People were represented as drawn or led by him in golden Chains fixed to their Ears and centering in his Tongue, the Meaning of which the *Druid* told *Lucian* was, that *Ogmius* accomplished all his Undertakings by the Force of his Eloquence, and reduced the People of the western World, from rude Barbarity to a State of Civility. See Mr. *Toland's* History of the *Druids* and Dr. *Stukely's* *Abury*, P. 73.

† Some say from the Stone presented to *Saturn* by his Wife *Ops*.

‖ *Latinae Ferae juramentum per Jovem Lapidem Omnium sanctissimum. Cic. xvii Ep. 12.*

WE have many fine Instances of the Veneration the *Israelites* had for their holy Hill, as the *Pfalmist* calls it, and the great Trust they put in the Divine Presence which they suppos'd to preside there; see *Pfalm* ii. 6. iii. 4. xv. ix. 11. xl. 65, &c. but chiefly that most Divine one, *Domine quis habitabit*, which as a Sort of religious Creed, and the Summary of Virtue, cannot be too often repeated.

Lord who shall Dwell in thy Tabernacle;
Or, who shall rest upon thy Holy Hill?
Even He that leadeth an uncorrupt Life;
And doth the Thing which is right;
And speaketh the Truth from his Heart, &c.

THAT the *Ilions* and *Pbrygians*, were wont to offer Sacrifice upon Mount *Ida*, and upon other high Places near *Troy*, is highly probable from a Passage in *Homer*, where that great Poet makes *Jupiter* himself bewail the unhappy Fate of *Hector*:

Unworthy Sight! the Man below'd of Heav'n,
Behold, inglorious round yon' City driv'n!
My heart partakes the gen'rous Hector's Pain;
Hector, whose Zeal whole Hecatombs has slain,
Whose grateful Fumes, the Gods receiv'd with Joy.
From *Ida's* Summits, and the Tow'rs of *Troy*.

POPE'S *Iliad*. B. 22.

THAT *Parnassus* was reverenc'd by the *Greeks*, I presume none will doubt of, and how far the *Briton's* regarded their *Eyryri*, or Mountain of Snow, the Reader may learn from an old *British* Invocation in Mr. *Rowland's Mona Antiqua Restaurata*, to which I refer him.

NEAR this fine Hill, about a quarter of a Mile West, stands the *Faghs na ain eithe*, or the one Night's Work, of which Plate VIII. is the Profile View, and Plate IX, the Plan.

THIS most uncommon of all Buildings I ever saw, represents at a Distance the Ruins of an old Castle, and one Way the Stump of a *Danish* Tower.

THE real Shape of it resembles most the Hulk of an antique Ship, the Walls of it are near seven Foot thick, and it is plac'd upon a Mount cut (as represented by the Schemes) into Slopes and Terrases, it looks as if originally there had been no Way into it, and the Hill has the Appearance of being all Artificial: 'Tis undoubtedly very old, and all I could learn about it is, that it is suppos'd to have been rais'd by Magick all in one Night, still retaining the Name. of *Faghs na ain eithe*.

The

THE most reasonable Conjecture we can now form about it is, that it may probably be the Tomb, or Monument of some famous Admiral, or notorious Pyrate, such formerly the Western Seas being much infested with before the Conquest of the Island; or, if we venture further, perhaps it may have been built in Memory of the first Ship that safely landed in this Kingdom, as such must of Necessity have born the first Planters of this Nation; and such Sort of wandering Argonauts we may well suppose the *Heneti* or Sons of *Japhet*, by whom we are well assured *Britain* at least was first peopled soon after the Flood; but be this as far from Truth as it will, the Natives themselves have a Tradition much more extravagant, and yet supported by many old Legends and romantick Stories in their Chronicles of a Niece of *Noah* himself landing in this Island. But this Account is much more easy to contradict than to offer any Thing in Defence of, since all our authentick Knowledge of those early Times is confined within the narrow Compass of a few general Words in Scripture.

One Thing indeed, and which may be of some Weight, the publick Records of this Country, make certain, and that is, the oldest Name of the County of *Louth* was *Uriel*, and as we read of a Son of *Noah* called *Urinen*; probably the primitive Name of the Country may have come from the same *Urinen*, its prime Planter.

But here I leave this Point to better Antiquaries, and proceed to Plate X.



P L A T E X.

THIS large and very odd Cave was found by Accident in a Corn Field, adjacent to, and very near the Banks of the River of *Ballrichan*, the Farmer plowing the Field, one of his Horses happen'd on a sudden to sink in at B, and in digging him out again they found the Gallery C, and in it some Bones of large and small Animals; at D they came to a little Opening, of about two Feet wide, and four Feet and an half high, leading into the long narrow Passage E; at the End of which they came to a conceal'd Stage or Gallery F, to this ascending thro' a trap Door, at G, at Length coming to H, they found another secret Descent, down to the Gallery I, which was something higher than that of the Passage E, but lower than that of C, which appears to have been the Chief one; the right Entrance seems to have been, by a gentle Descent and a few Steps, at A, tho' now quite stopt up, the Sides and Top of all this Cave is built up of Flag-Stones; what the Use and Design of it was, I have not been able to learn, but if we may venter to guess; it seems not unlikely to have been originally intended for a Sort of Granary to conceal Corn, and perhaps other Effects of Value from mountain Robbers, and the

their plundering Neighbours, since it is but too well known that the Inhabitants of the Pale, and the Native *Irish* were frequently and long at War with one another: All this Part of *Ireland* abounds with such Caves, not only under Mounts, Forts and Castles, but under unsuspected plain Fields, some winding into little Hills and Rifings like a *Volute* or Rams-Horn; others running zig zag, like a Serpent; others again right forward, connecting Cell with Cell. The common *Irish* tell you, they are all sculking Holes of the *Danes* after they had lost their Superiority in that Island: Such may we not imagine that of *Makkedab*, Joshua x. 16. 17. which remarkable Instance makes this not improbable. Others there are who confidently affirm, that this County was once infested with a Race of * Giants, and that these were the Burrows of the common Men.

P L A T E XI, XII, and XIII.

St. Boyn's Cross.

THIS is a very old and curious Cross, about 18 Feet high, on all Sides full of Sculpture; 'tis said to be all of one Stone, sent from *Rome*, and erected by Order of the Pope: on the Center of the Cross, on one Side (Plate XI) is a Figure representing Christ, and opposite on the other (Plate XII) *St. Patrick*, on this Side at the Bottom are the Figures of *Adam* and *Eve*, &c. and opposite on the other that of *St. Boyn*; the whole seems to be a Sort of History from the Creation; but as the Figures are most of them very old, imperfect, and not easy to be made out, I shall not here undertake a full Description of them: I shall only observe, that under the Feet of *St. Patrick*, an Angel is represented with a Pair of Scales, as weighing Virtue, and Vice, where the former is supposed to be predominant, and over the Head of Christ, he is again represented between the Apostles as risen from the Dead. A, Plate XIII, shews an Inscription which is at the Foot of the Cross in *Irish* Characters at large. B, represents an Hand holding a Cake, (probably the *Host*,) as it is carv'd under the Right Arm of the Cross at D.

C, E, and F, represent the Faces and Reverses of three Pieces of silver Coin found with many more of the same Sort, with some Silver Wedges, such as G, near this Cross as a Man was digging a Grave for his Wife:

* *Spenser* hints at this Story, but regards it only as a Fable; where he says, *Nemedus* and his Sons coming out of *Scythia*, peopled *Ireland*, and inhabited it with his Sons 250 Years, until he was overcome of the Giants Dwelling then in *Ireland*, and at last quite banish'd and routed out by them.

P L A T E XIV.

Represents an old *Danish* Tower in the same Church-yard, which is 110 Feet high, beautifully diminishing like the *Tuscan* Pillar from a Base of 18 Feet. To the Door X, and into it is by Steps on the Outside marked 1, 2, 3, &c. and the Plan of it is shewn at A, *Plate XVI*. B, in the said Plate, shews the Foundation of another of these Towers, as now standing at *Drumiskin*, and represented in *Plate XV*. being also continued proportionably to the suppos'd original Height, which from the vast Breadth of its Foundation is judged to have been one of the highest in *Ireland*, and not less than 130 feet. This is now made use of as a *Bell-fry*, and stands distant from the Church about 30 Yards. What the first Design of these lofty Towers were it has not yet been agreed on, some will have them to have been *Watch-Towers* or *Beacons*; but this, their low Situation seem rather to argue against. Others are of Opinion, that they are purgatorial Pillars, in which the Penitent, was elevated according to his Crime (by a Ladder) to fast and pray, and so to purge away his Sins. Lastly, as they are generally found near Churches, they are imagined to have been *Belfries*, or *Curfew-Steeples*, to warn the Country round of Danger, or to call the People together to Mass or Prayer, &c.

OF these Sort of Steeples or Towers I have counted myself in this Kingdom seven, but I don't remember to have met with one in *England*; I indeed heard of two in *Scotland*, but saw neither of them, one of which is or was reckoned amongst the Wonders of that Kingdom.

Gordon in his *Itinerary* mentions them both. The one he calls the round Steeple of *Abernethy*, said to be a *Pictish* Work, 48 Feet in Circumference, and 75 Feet high. The other is the Steeple of *Brechin* 85 Feet high, with a Spire of 15, in all 100 Feet high, and 47 in Circumference; the Foundation Walls of each he makes about three Feet and a half, so that they are evidently of the same Sort with these here represented, and probably may have been designed for the same purpose.

AND since we are informed it was a Custom amongst the *Danes*, "when any troublous Cry or Uproar happened, to repair with all Speed to their common Fort or Rath, appointed for their Quarter of the Hundred," these lofty Buildings, in all likelihood may have been designed originally at those Times to warn the Country round, and give timely notice of the Peril, either by Fire in the Night-time, or the Sound of a Bell, &c. in the Day.

PLATE XVII. and XVIII,
Ruins of Melefont.

Melefont was formerly a famous Monastery, and in Queen Elizabeth's Time is said to have contained 140 Monks; lately it was one of the Seats of the Earl of Drogheda, but now mostly demolished.

Plate XVII. represents a fine old Gothic Door-way into the Chapel, all of Blue Marble richly ornamented and gilt, which I was informed was sold, and going to be taken to pieces when I was there.

Plate XVIII. is a View of a beautiful octagonal Bath, so called now, but most likely a Baptistry, standing near it, also sold and to be taken away. The Ornaments of this are likewise all blue Marble both within and without, and when perfect must have been a Master-piece of its kind.



PLATE XX.

FIG. 1, and 2. represents the Plan and View of St. Bridget's Stone, having a rais'd Work about it, in the Form of an Horse-shoe; at A upon a rough rocky Flint, those who were enjoyn'd Penance, as I was inform'd by one of their Priests, used to pray upon their bare Knees till the Blood run round about them.

FIG. 3. and 4. is St. Bridget's Pillar, rais'd upon two circular and concentrick Steps, round which the Nuns of the Convent used to go upon their Knees upon particular Occasions; sometimes round the lesser, and sometimes round the larger Circles, as their Penitence required.



PLATE XXI.

THIS is the View of the Ruins of a Church at Millax-Town near Atherdee, much resorted to upon account of the surprizing Position of the Gable End A, which is confidently reported to have been blown away from its Foundation B in a violent Storm, and placed upright at C, where it now remains erect; which strange Accident, tho' greatly inquired into, has no way yet been accounted for in a satisfactory Manner.



PLATE XXII.

FIG. 1. represents a true Drawing in Perspective (the Eye being deprest and very near) of a Pair of Moose Deer Horns, such as are frequently found in most of the Bogs of Ireland, several Feet deep in Turf, and generally buried in a Bed of Marl. These

These I saw at *Barmeath*, a Seat of *John Bellew's* near *Dunkear*, and as near as I could measure them, the Extent of the Tips of the Horns, from one Extreme to the other, was little less than 14 Feet, and the Length of each Palm alone very near eight Feet. From A to B, *Fig. 2.* was about 32 Inches, and C D 20. Dr. *Molyneux* in the *Natural History of Ireland*, has given a very full Account of Deer Horns in general, where citing several Authors, he shews plainly these to have been of the same Kind with those of an Animal known in the *West Indies* by the Name of a *Moose*, described by Mr. *Josselyn* among his *New England Rarities* *.

ALL this Race of Animals in *Ireland*, is suppos'd to have been swept away by an epidemical Distemper, or *Pestilential Murrain*, incident to such Creatures in other Countries, where whole Herds have been destroy'd, and the whole Race in danger of being extinct, but from a new Supply from the neighbouring Continent, such having happened more than once in *Lapland*.

THREE of these Sort of Horns were found by casually trenching an Orchard at *Dardistown* in the County of *Meath*; one of which extended near 11 Feet, and is represented in the *Natural History of Ireland*; one was found in the County of *Clare* by Mr. *Van Delure*, and presented to King *Charles II.* by the Duke of *Ormond*; one at *Ballymackward* near *Ballyshannon*, in the County of *Fermanagh*, 1691; two near Lord *Barneval's* at *Turvy*, eight Miles from *Dublin*, 1684; one at *Portumny* in the County of *Gallway*; one at Lord *Mountjoy's* near *Newtown Stewart*, and one at Mr. *Southby's* near *Dunkear*. A Pair of such Horns are to be seen at Lord *Limerick's* at *Dundalk*, (eight Feet wide,) a Pair at Sir *Thomas Taylor's* at *Kells* (12 Feet) a Pair at *Bewley*, and a Pair at *Stock Allen*, besides many more in several Parts of the Kingdom.

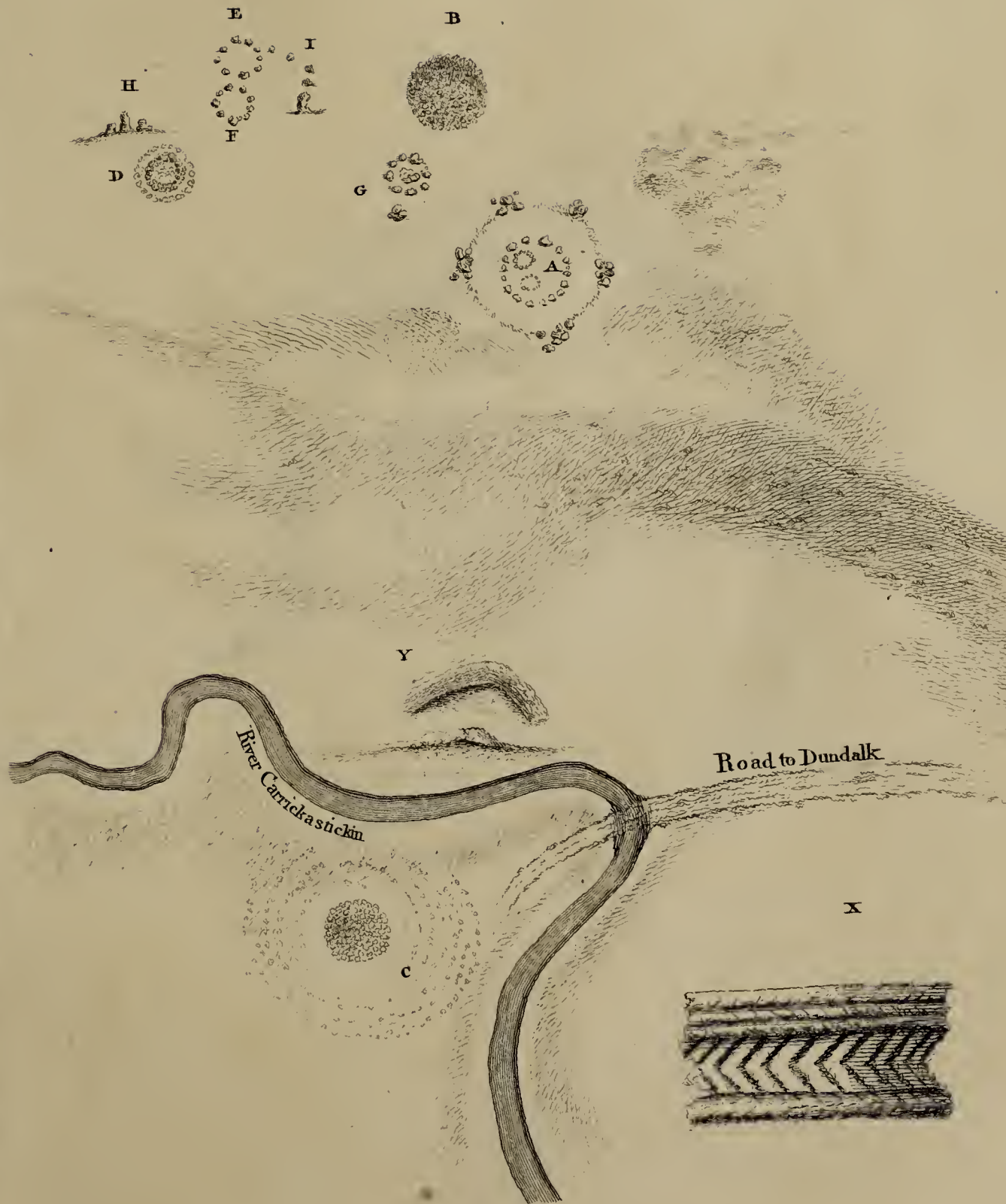
* The *Moose Deer*, common in these Parts, is a very goodly Creature, some of them 12 Feet high, with exceeding fair Horns, with broad Palms, some of them two Fathoms or twelve Feet from the Tip of one Horn to the other.

Another Author (as I find him cited) describes the Manner of the Indians hunting this Creature thus,

They commonly hunt the *Moose*, which is a kind of Deer, in the Winter, and run him down sometimes in half, otherwhile a whole Day, when the Ground is cover'd with Snow, which usually lies here four Feet deep; the Beast, very heavy, sinks every Step as he runs, breaking down Trees as big as a Man's Thigh, with his Horns, at length they get up with it, and darting their Lances, wound it so that the Creature walks heavily on, till tired and spent with Loss of Blood, it sinks and falls like a ruin'd Building, making the Earth shake under it.

F I N I S.







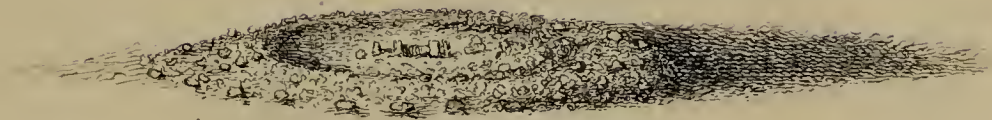
East



B. III .

P. IV.

A



B





*To Thomas Fortescue Esq. Member of PARLIAMENT
for the Borough of DUNDALK, This Plate is Inscrib'd
by his Oblig'd Humble Serv. T*

Tho^s. Wright.

B. III.

P. VI.

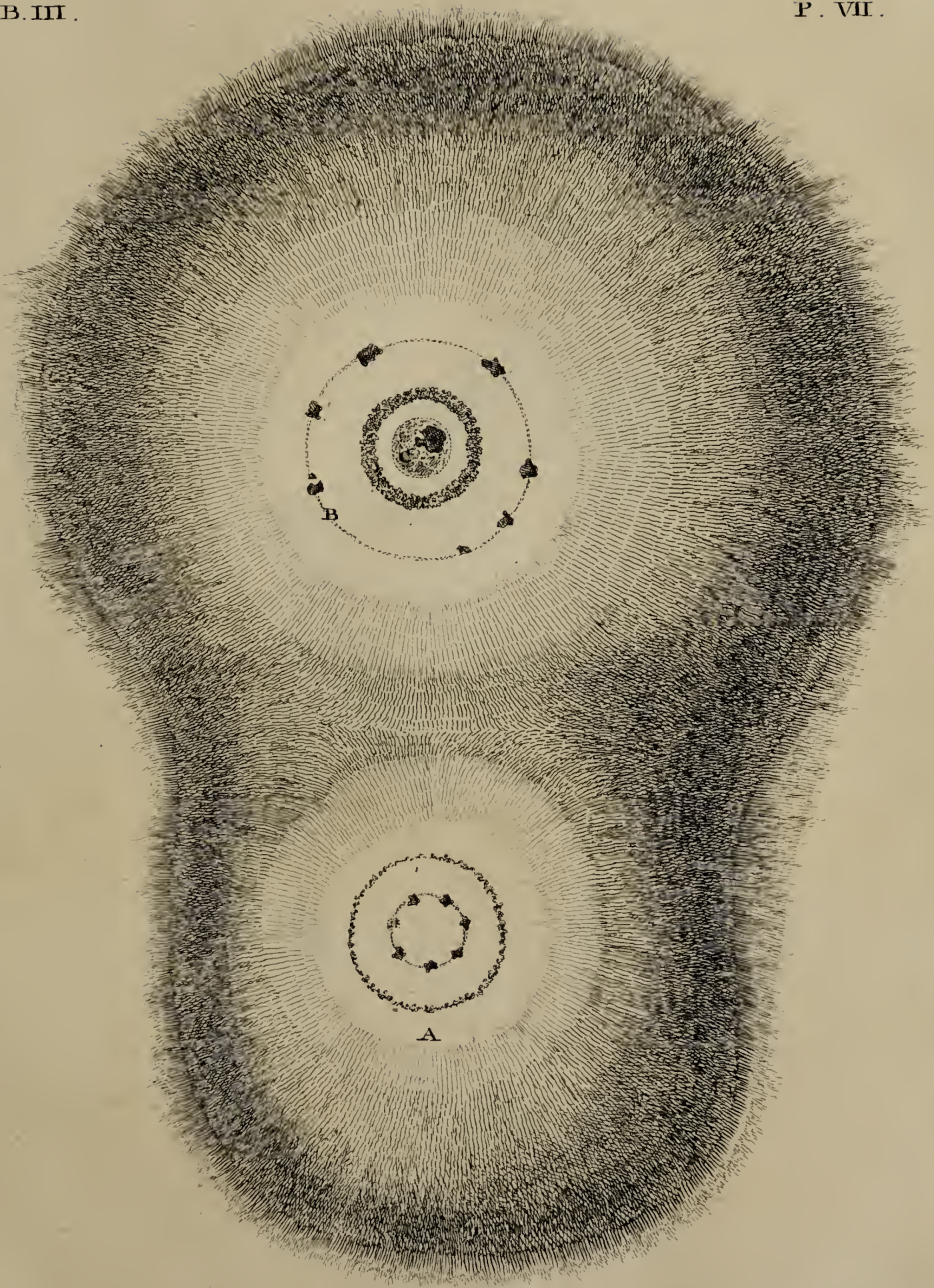


A



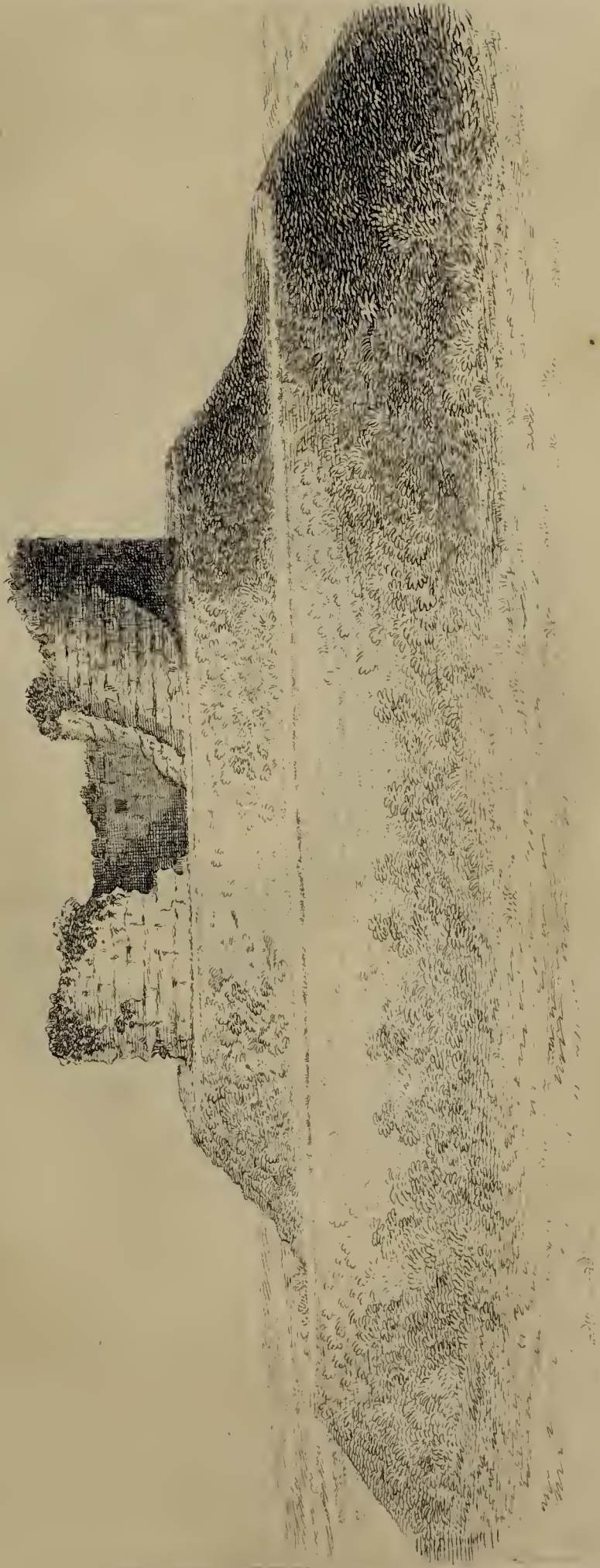
B



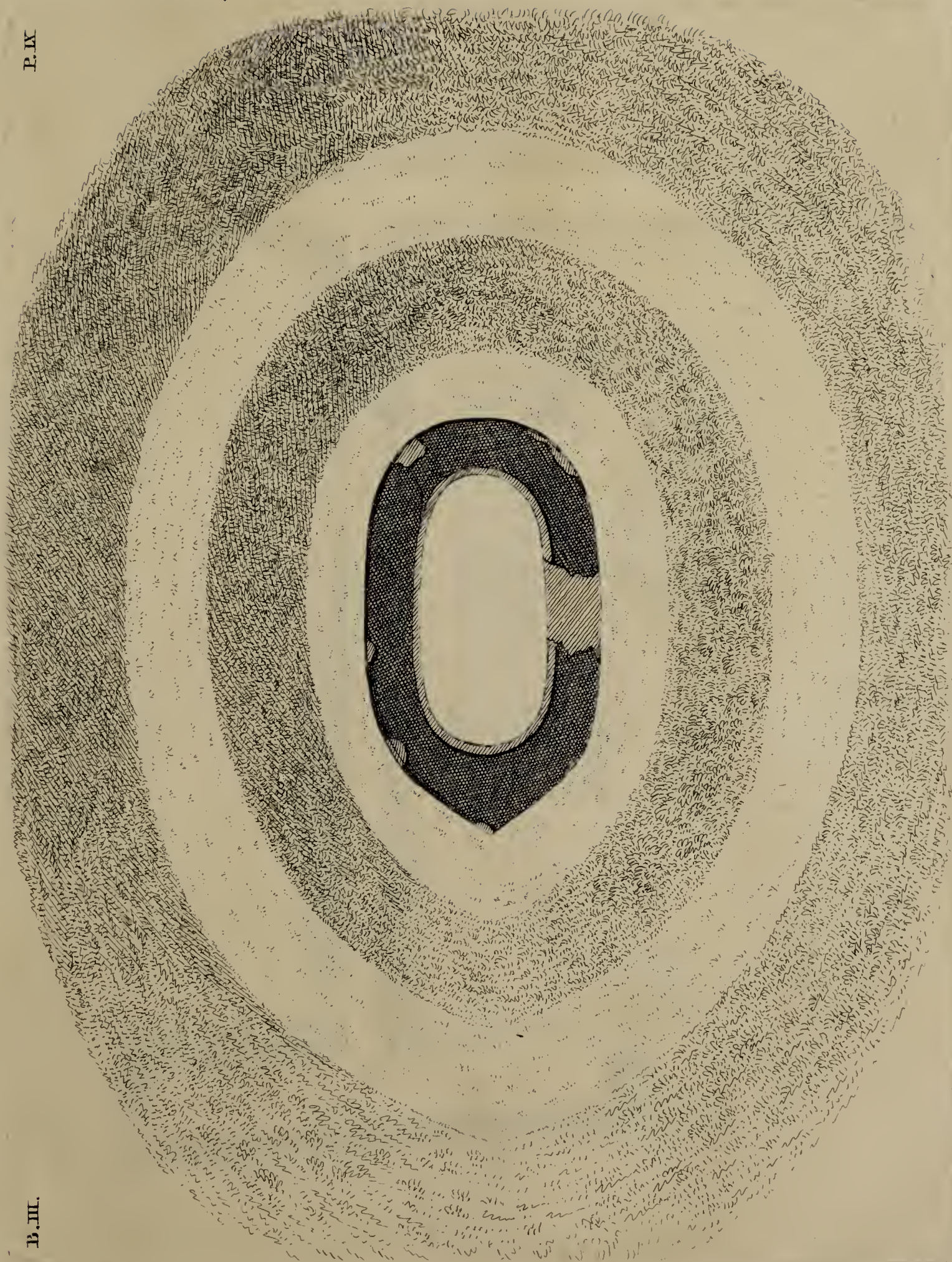


P. VIII .

B. III .



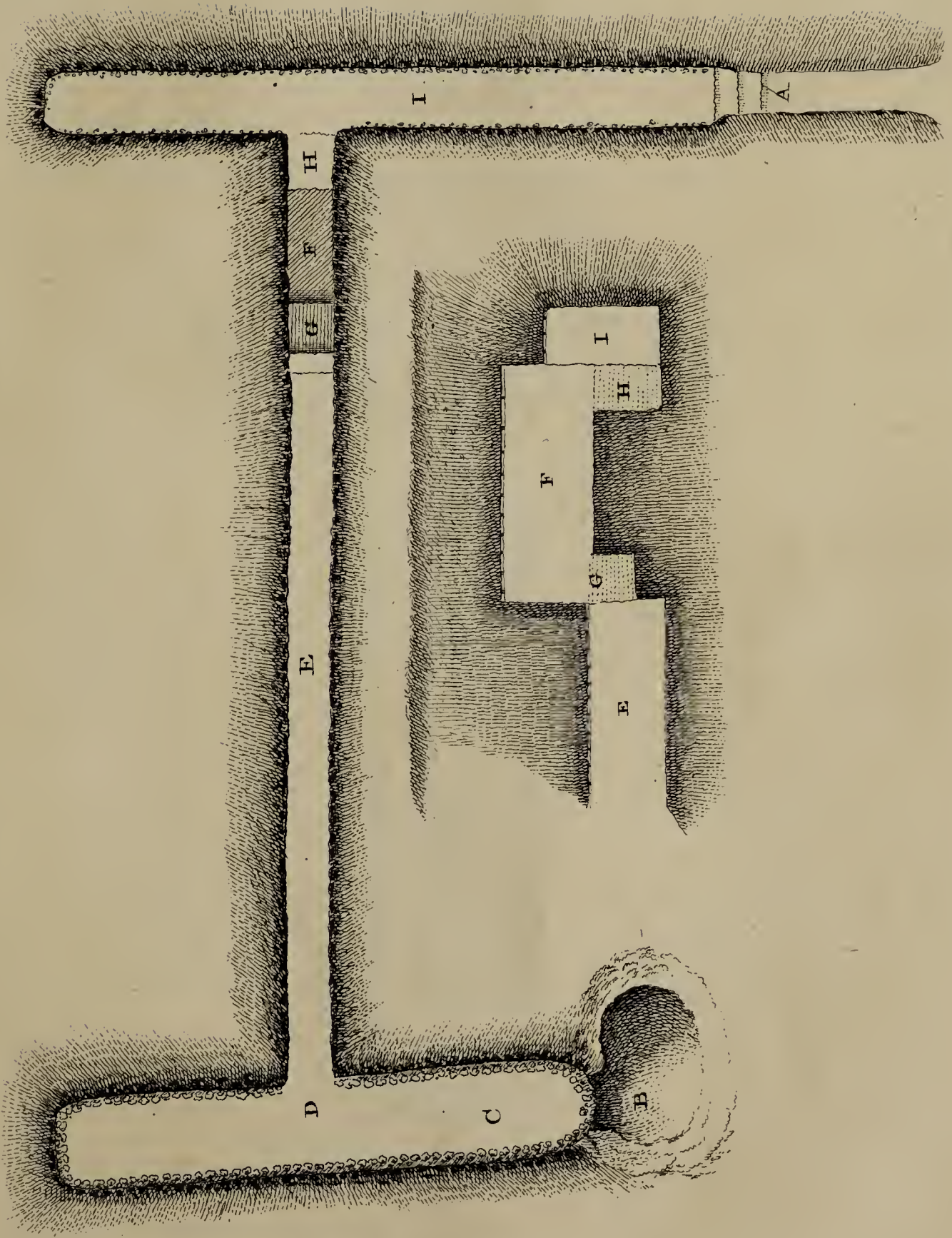
P. IX



P. III

P. X.

B. III.

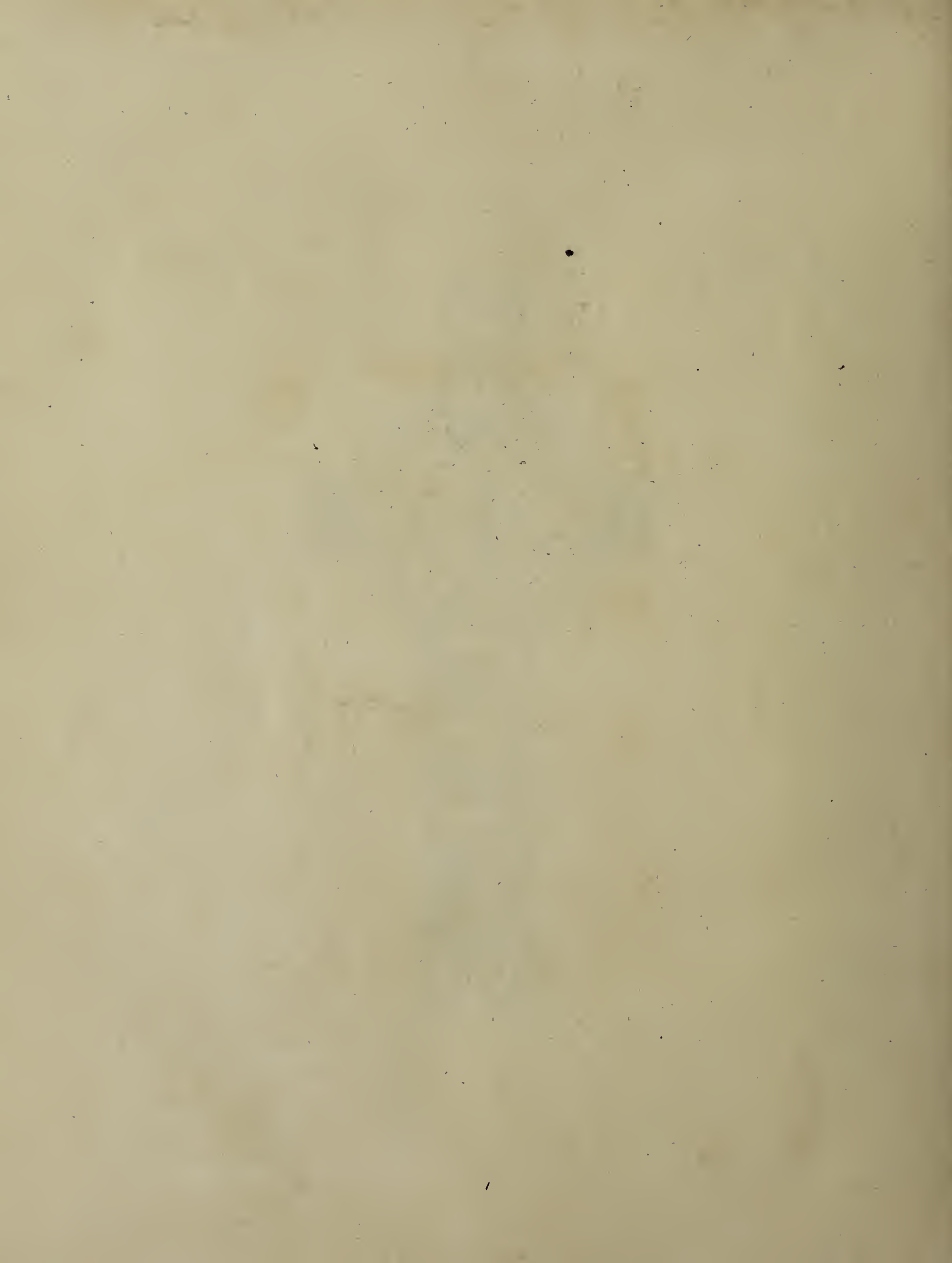


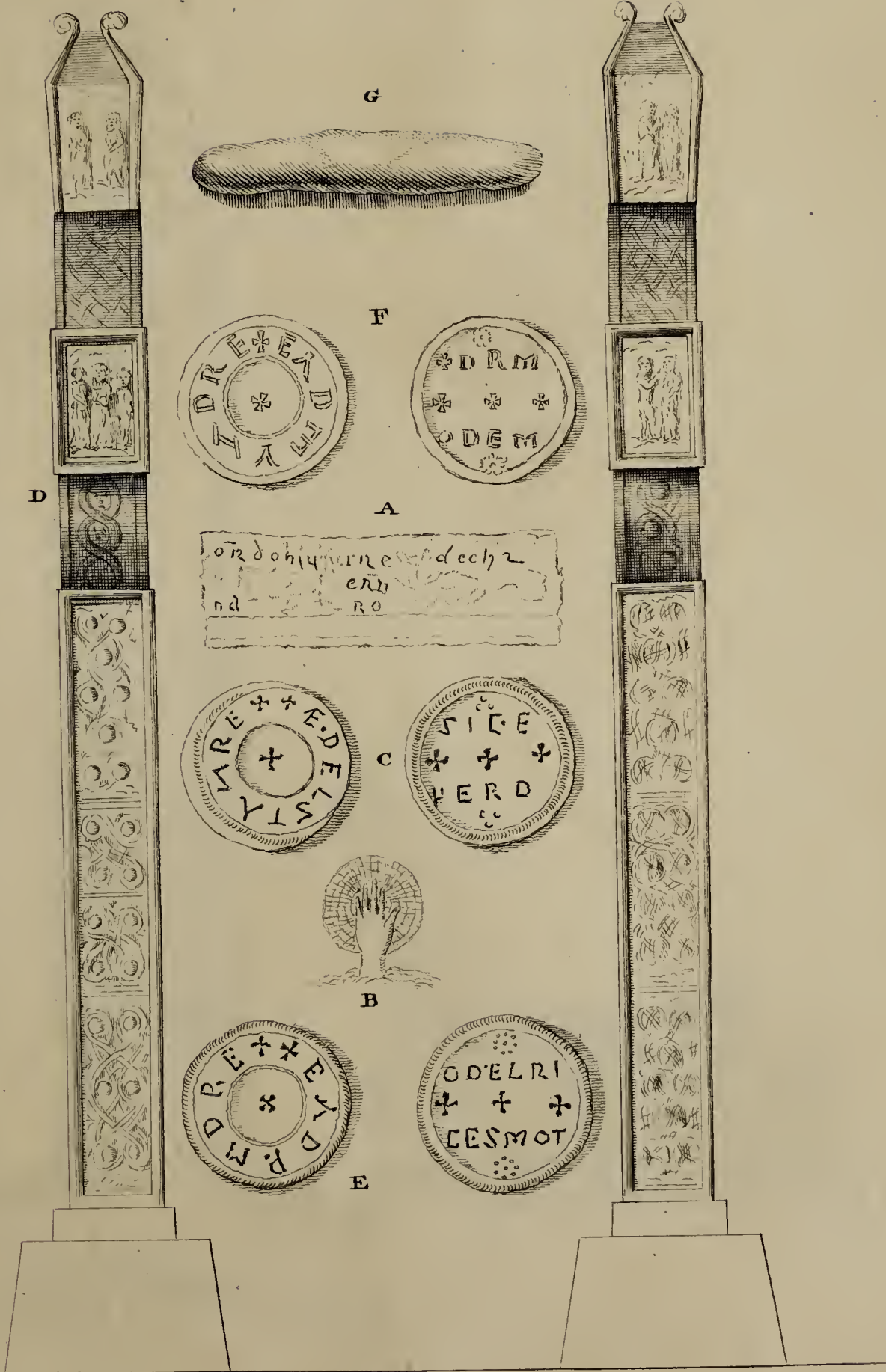
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P. XI.









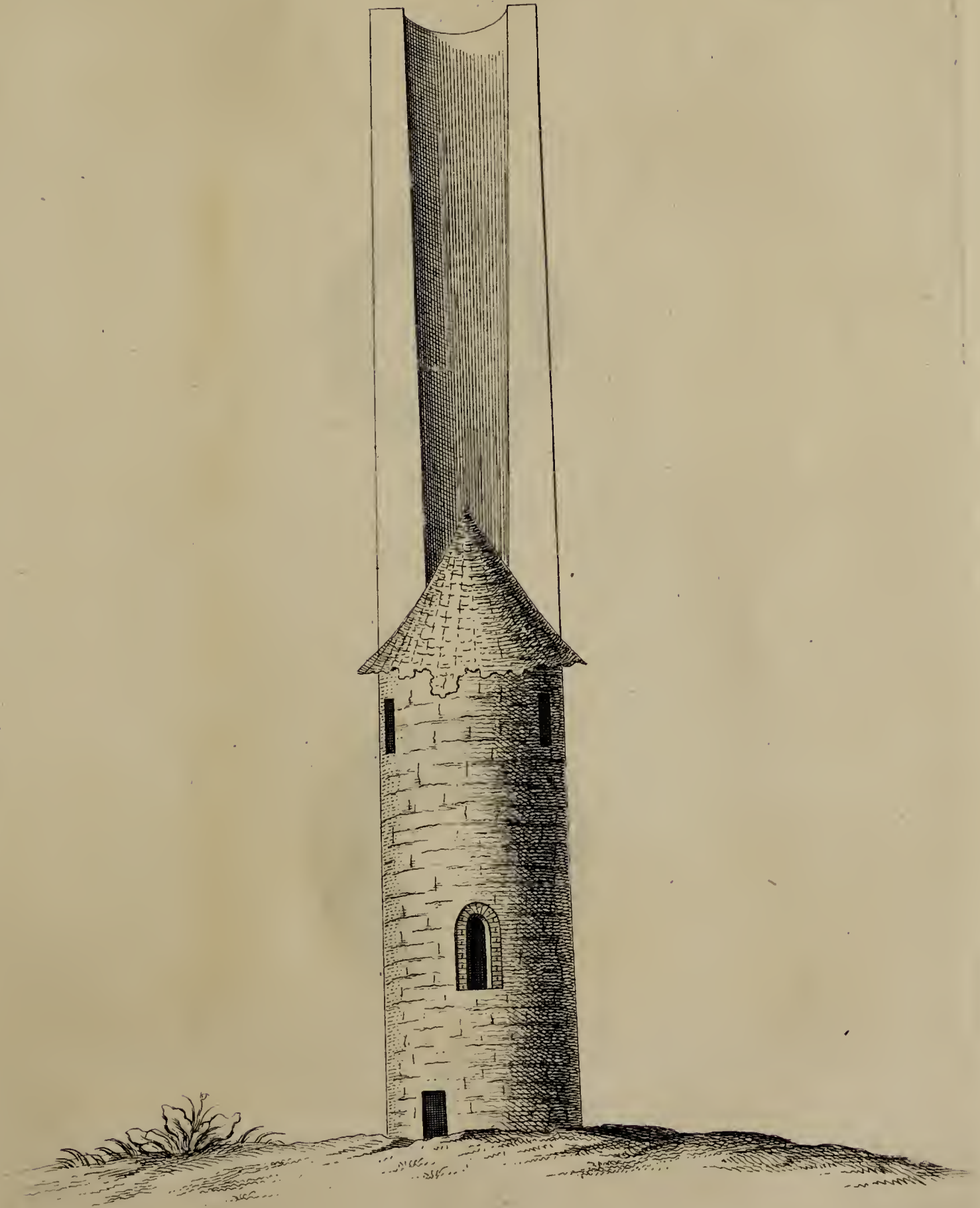
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P. XIV .



B. III.

P. XV.



B. III.

P. XVI.

A



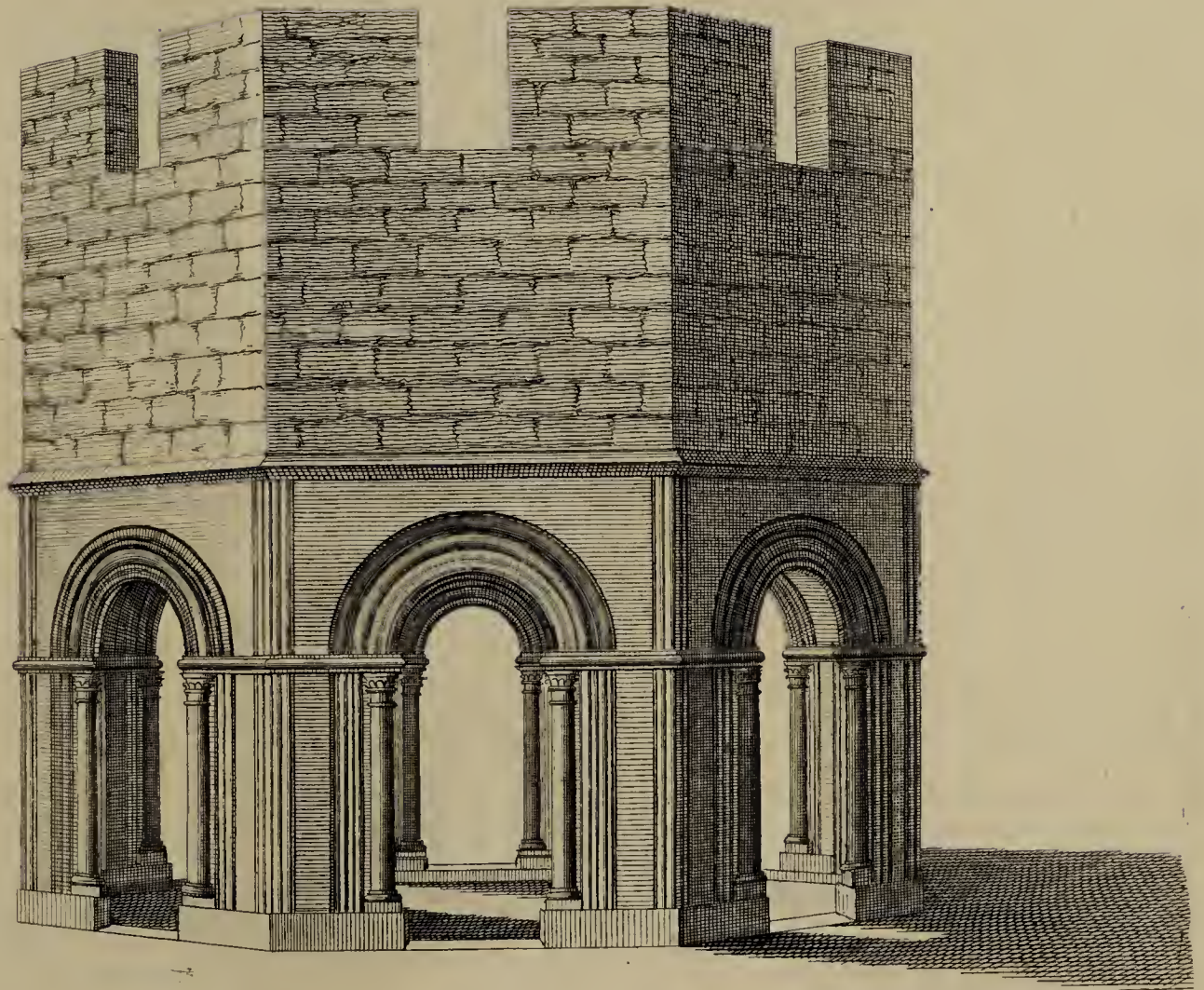
B





*To M^{rs} Elizabeth Neal, This PLATE is Inscrib'd
by her Oblig'd Humble Serv^t.*

Tho^s Wright.



To the Right Hon^{ble} The Lady Viscountess LIMERICK,
This Plate, is gratefully Inscrib'd by her Ladys^{rs}
Oblig'd Humble Serv^t
Tho.^s Wright.



Fig. 1



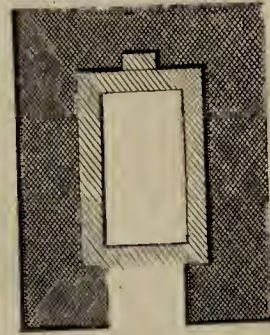
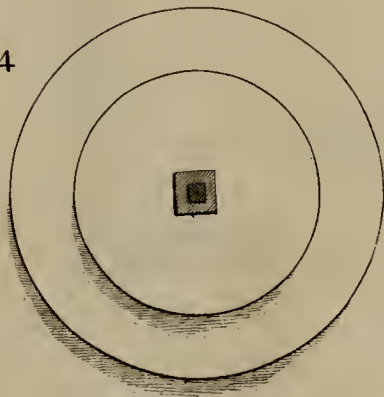
Fig. 2



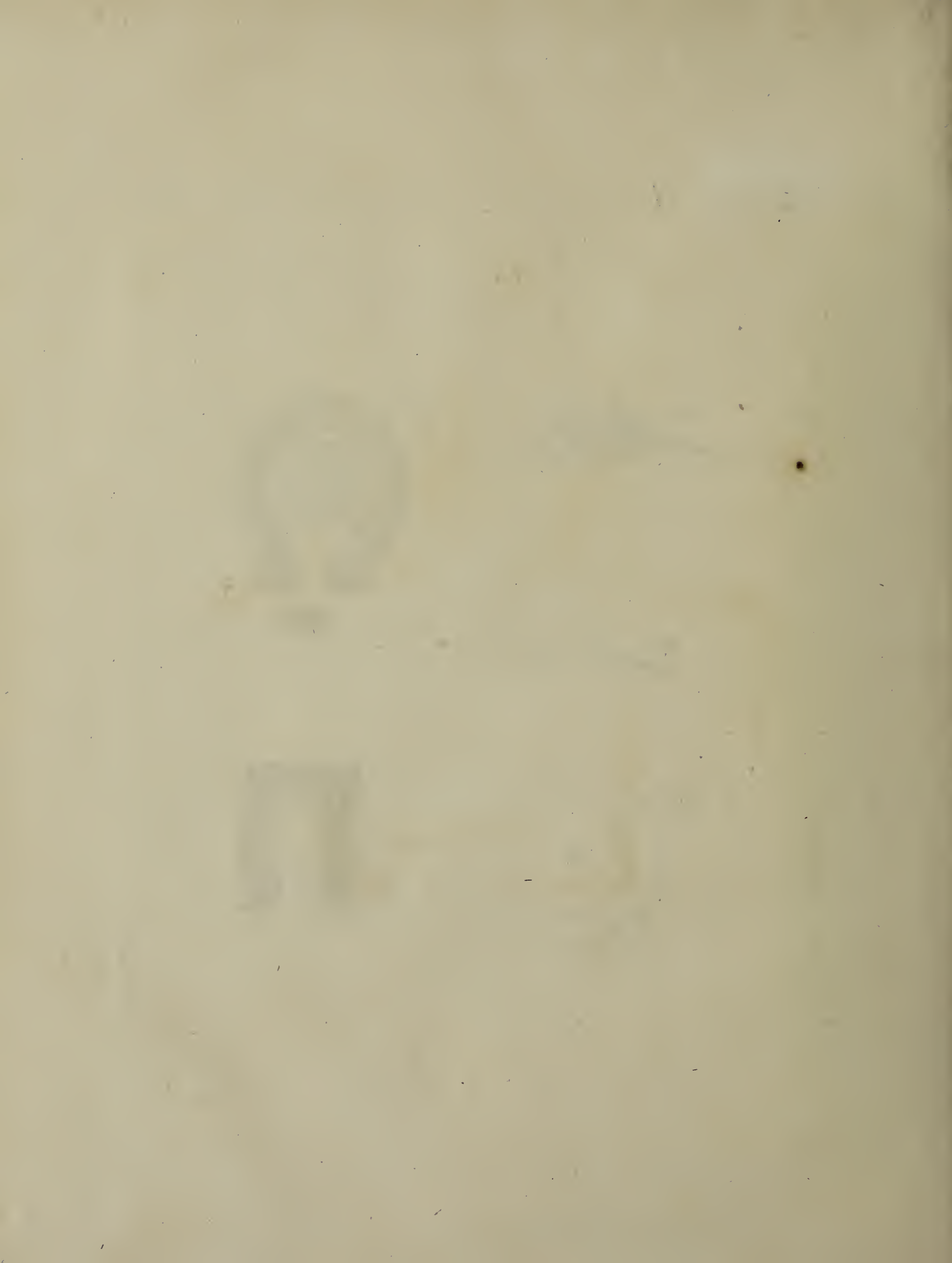
Fig. 3

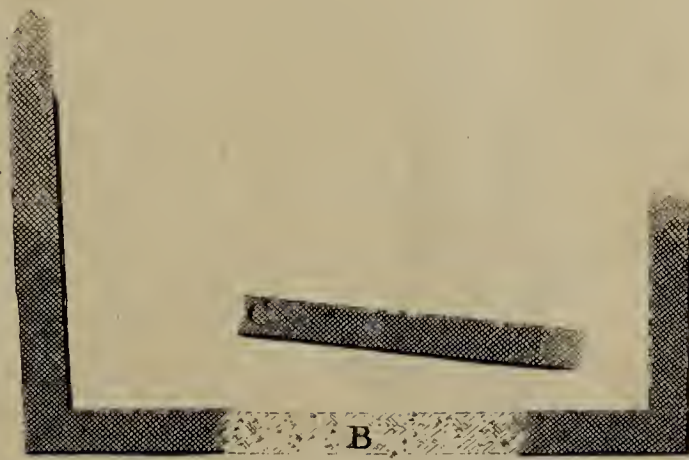


Fig. 4



B





14 Foot Fore



Fig. 4

8 Foot Fore

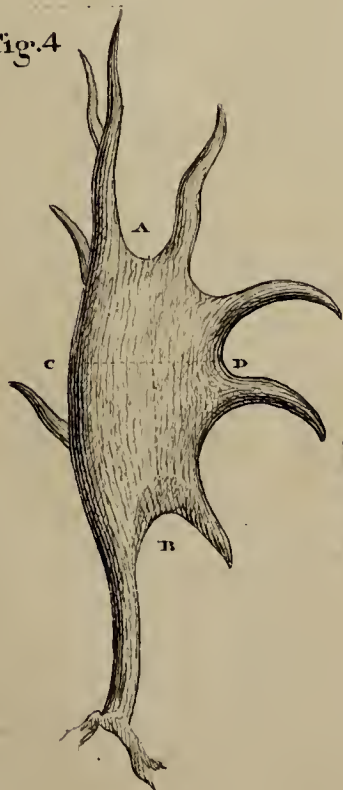


Fig. 3



Fig. 2



